

THE RAIL

Campus

GRADUATION INFO

Graduates and faculty members participating in Spring commencement can pick up their caps and gowns between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 24, through Friday, April 28, at the Student Services Center on the first floor of the Administration Building. They will receive a packet of commencement instructions with their regalia.

Videotaped copies of each ceremony can be ordered through the Office of University Relations. Videos cost \$24.95 and can be purchased with cash, check or credit card. Ordering information is included in the graduation packet.

For more information about commencement, call Gina Bradley, commencement coordinator, in the Office of University Relations at 562-1143.

TRAVEL OVERSEAS

Applications to study abroad during the Spring 2007 trimester are now available. Call the Study Abroad office at 562-1499 to schedule an appointment with the Study Abroad Coordinator. The deadline for applications is Aug. 29.

Study Abroad programs are available for Spring 2007 at the following locations: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Malta, The Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay.

A SHARP CONCERT

The Northwest chapter of the Delta Zeta sorority will sponsor a benefit concert starring country singer Kevin Sharp at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center to raise money for Camp Quality Northwest Missouri, a summer camp for children with cancer.

A country duo based in Nashville, Hometown News, opens for Sharp.

Tickets cost \$7 and are available at the Student Services Desk on the first floor of the Administration Building, open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Tickets are also available at the Hy-Vee supermarkets in Maryville and St. Joseph, Mo.

Local

MONTGOMERY TRIAL

The case of the U.S. v. Lisa Montgomery has been delayed until Oct. 23, 2006. Lisa Montgomery of Melvern, Kan., could possibly face the death penalty for cutting a fetus from Skidmore resident Bobbi Jo Stinnett's womb and transporting the baby to her home in Kansas Dec. 16, 2004.

EVERYBODY CUT FOOTLOOSE
Maryville High School students will perform the Broadway Musical, "Footloose," April 21, 22 and 23.

see 7A

Lifestyles

FACEBOOK, ANYONE?

Check out our in-depth look at the Facebook addiction on campus.

see 8B

SUMMER FLICKS

Preview the summer's top five movies and a review on "Memoirs of a Geisha."

see 7B

Medicare plan opposed

By Dennis Sharkey
S261002@nwmissouri.edu

Opponents of President Bush's prescription drug program for seniors fired back last week two days after the president's visit to the state capitol.

Bush was in Jefferson City promoting his Medicare Part D prescription drug program last Tuesday. The President urged seniors to sign up for a program before the May 15 deadline. After the deadline participants will be charged an additional 1 percent over the life of the plan.

Last Thursday at the Don Bosco Senior Center in Kansas City, Mo., the Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition, a local chapter of Ameri-

cans United For Change, held its own forum on the plan.

Forum speaker Kevin Hennosy said one of the biggest faults of the plan is the May 15 deadline. He doesn't believe seniors should be forced into hasty decisions.

"If it's such a great plan, why can't seniors have time to make certain?" Hennosy said. "I don't think people should be taxed on making a smart decision."

Hennosy also pointed out the president is not telling the public about the problems associated with the plan.

He said the donut hole that exists in the plan is something that is overlooked. Under the plan seniors pay a \$250 annual deductible and 75 percent of prescription

cost is covered up to \$2,150. Medicare then pays nothing until \$5,100 is reached.

He said prices can go up without notification and certain drugs can be taken off the list at any time.

"It's something that wasn't talked about when the bill was being discussed," Hennosy said. "And it's not something this administration wants to talk about now."

Nathan Riding, president of the Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition, said listening to the president's message, it's clear to him that Bush is out of touch with the real problems with the economy and the plan.

see MEDICARE on 9A

Main arguments against Medicare Part D

-Deadline doesn't allow seniors time to make an educated decision

-Donut hole in benefits

-Prices can change without notice

-Drugs can be removed from program without notice

-Many questions can't be answered by Medicare

Anticipated Arrival



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

HY-VEE EMPLOYEE Katie Stilwell places a sign on one of the bakery showcases Tuesday afternoon. The new store is scheduled to open Monday, creating approximately 130 jobs.

After months of construction, the Maryville Hy-Vee is set to open



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

AFTER MONTHS of construction, a can of polycrylic finisher sits on one of the bakery tables in preparation for the new Hy-Vee opening set for Monday. The old store is scheduled to be torn down on the same day.

By Andrew Glover
S262030@nwmissouri.edu

Maryville's newest structure is preparing to open its doors for business.

The Maryville Hy-Vee will open its new store April 25 offering more to their customers with many new services and space.

Shoppers can expect to see nearly triple the amount of aisle space allowing for more products to choose from, Steve Hamilton, manager of general merchandise, said.

Hy-Vee Floral supervisor Marla Anderson said the floral department is able to make and deliver various arrangements seven days a week, for no

see ANTICIPATED on 9A

Foster Aquatic center damaged

By Andrew Glover
S270230@nwmissouri.edu

Sometime on the night of April 10, into the morning of the 11th, vandals ransacked the Robert P. Foster Aquatic Center.

Sergeant Ray Ottman of Campus Safety said extensive damage was done to the pool and the office inside the building.

"Broken light bulbs were thrown in the pool, along with many other things, the window in front of the office was shattered, and things were lit on fire," Ottman said.

No suspects have been named yet, but some leads have been established with the help of Detective Randy Strong of Maryville Public Safety.

Ottman believes the intruders gained access to the aquatic center through a passage on the roof and has no idea how they knew there was a way in from that location.

At this time a motive has not been determined.

The damage was first reported in the morning of April 11, when a student worker showed up to see the aquatic center in ruins.

Ottman said the aquatic center will be closed indefinitely and doesn't know when it will re-open. He said with the amount of glass canvassing the floor, they want to wait until everything is cleaned up.

The expense of the damage could not be released, but Ottman noted that the damage is excessive. If anyone has any information dealing with the vandalism, please contact Campus Safety at 562-1254.

Alumni return to campus for Centennial concert

By Kristin Summers
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They were only given one hour and 20 minutes to practice with 45 strangers before going onstage to perform.

The current Tower Choir of 45 people and some of the Tower Choir alumni, approximately 100 people, performed four musical pieces together just meeting each other hours before.

Tower Choir alumni from 13 states traveled back to Northwest for a centennial concert Tuesday evening at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. The oldest Tower Choir alumni who attended went to Northwest in 1964.

Some of the songs were a cap-

pella while others included percussion, flute, oboe and piano accompaniment. The Northwest Tower Choir performed 11 pieces before alumni took the stage with them and a surprise piece by an alumni quartet also took the stage.

Stephen Town, professor of music and Tower Choir conductor, said the department of music wanted to be a part of the University's Centennial celebration.

In July 2005, Town e-mailed approximately 500 Tower Choir alumni, with approximately 100 people and suggesting fun, serious and patriotic numbers.

Town e-mailed the alumni members the music they would perform the night of the concert, giving them time to practice on their own.

Festivities included a reception at the Alumni House. Alumni members wore name tags while they enjoyed refreshments, looked at the bulletin board of photos, newspaper clippings and old programs.

Traveling by plane from Gahanna, Ohio, alumni Rebecca Wigal was in the Tower Choir from 1978 to 1982 and said she tries to stay in touch with the University and hadn't been back on campus since 1992.

Wigal said she looked over the music before returning to campus but was nervous about the piece Ezekiel Saw de Wheel.

Alumna Tonya Rudick, a choir member from 1985 to 1987, drove 5 hours from Jay, Okla., in hopes of

see CONCERT on 9A



PHOTO BY KELIE WHITE / NWMISSOURIAN

THE NORTHWEST Tower Choir performed Tuesday night under the direction of Stephen Town. The concert featured alumni performs who attended Northwest as far back as 1964.

OURVIEW

Role Models?

The recent scuffle at the World Famous Outback involving Northwest football players placed a black-eye on an otherwise squeaky-clean program. Unfortunately, it represents nothing out of the ordinary for headline-making behavior from athletes in general.

When Charles Barkley famously proclaimed "I am not a role-model" in a national Nike advertisement, he lied. Like it or not, athletes hold greater positions of power than any elected official.

When young athletes no longer read newspapers or watch ESPN, then professional and even collegiate athletes will be absolved of accountability to their own image and its projection on athletics in general. It would be unfair to prematurely announce the passing of the Northwest athletic department's scandal-free reputation for producing not only outstanding athletes, but outstanding human beings. Our school still possesses a comparatively clean track-record that embattled programs such as the University of Colorado, University of Alabama or University of Missouri can only refer to in the past-tense.

However, put this into perspective: this incident pales in comparison to what happens on a regular basis—and often ends up swept under the rug—at other universities.

Consider it a given, in this era, that the choices of individual would-be adults inevitably ripples to impact the team or school that fans know them as representing on game-day. The coaches and players, try as they might, cannot reach into the minds of the public to save their players' reputations. Athletes have evolved into icons.

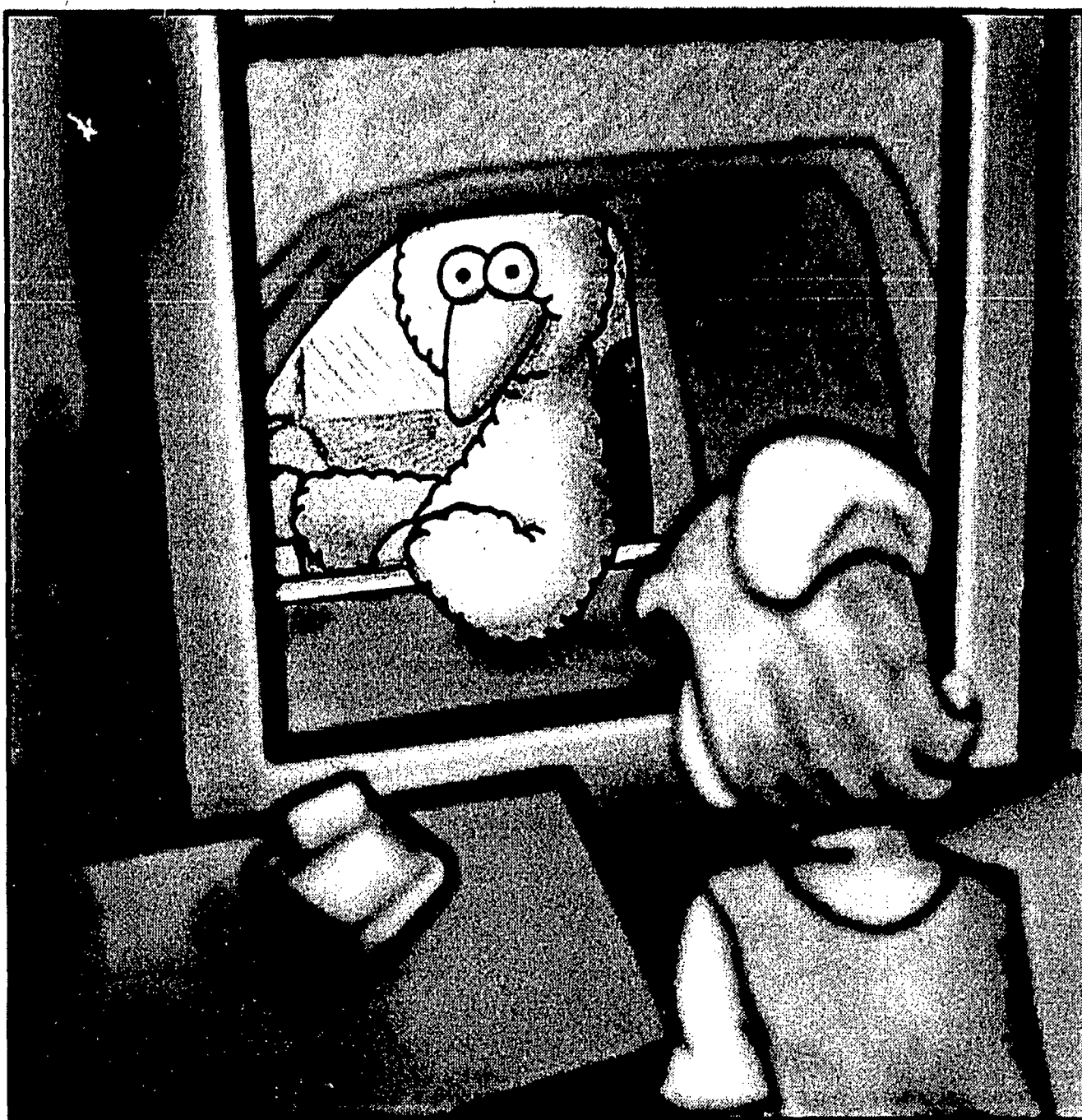
And icons change their culture—of sports, and the potential future superstars who go on to emulate them. Athletes who cannot gratefully and humbly conduct themselves with dignity do not deserve the scholarships, salaries and general carte-blanche that society hands them. Why should the standards of dignity be any lower for multi-millionaire athletes than for multi-millionaire CEOs?

Collegiate athletes—and to drive a point home, student athletes—should express double the gratitude. Decades ago, when then-Indiana head coach Bobby Knight recruited Isiah Thomas from an inner-city high school, he didn't guarantee Thomas's mother that her son would start or even play; he guaranteed her his education. If students who would not have set foot on a college campus but for an athletic scholarship think so little of the opportunity as to fail to elevate themselves in the process, they deserve nothing.

Such opportunities escape in the millisecond it takes for an ACL to tear or a bone to break at one inopportune moment. For that one simple fact of an athlete's life, the athlete owes it to him or herself to carry with them a sense of self-respect and reverence for doors opened to them that most people will never see. Such respect comes from gratitude the opportunity to travel a road of which dreams are made. A god of the gridiron or the court or the ballfield falls down with the mortals very, very quickly.

And the mortals below the gods remember a great deal.

We at the *Northwest Missourian* give thanks that we so rarely must report Bearcat athletes have behaved as anything short of exemplary adults and students. Perhaps the mentality differs most at higher levels. If that turns out to be the case, then maybe we lowly Division II schools have been more effective in nurturing respectable adults who just happen to be phenomenal athletes.



IN THE NEWS: U.S. GOVERNMENT DEVELOPS A DRIVE-THROUGH BIRD FLU VACCINATION PROGRAM.

Media monster slays truth, fair trial

I hate admitting it. It embarrasses me to consider it. But at the same time, I can't possibly ignore it.

The professional media have set out to ruin the American legal system before judges, prosecutors, law enforcement or even attorneys have the chance.

At this point, why even bother trying the three Duke University lacrosse players on the charges of raping and assaulting a stripper at a team party? At the very least, don't waste the time of judges, prosecutors and a minimum 12 jurors. The Associated Press painted one pretty picture by already dubbing the case "racially charged."

How in the world do you figure this to be "racially charged?" Was it not bad enough to attempt to present available evidence to the public before anyone can put it into context? Nothing can be made even remotely clear until the court opens three sealed indictments to present the evidence that would indicate why prosecutors feel they can get an immediate conviction—after all, that is supposed to be the standard for receiving an indictment. In the meantime,

Jagged Edges



Sean Comer
Opinion Editor

even the AP just can't sit on anything long enough to get things as insignificant as facts straight.

Oh, I get it now: the North Carolina dateline, coupled with the involvement of three white men and one black woman, explains everything. I faintly recall a mathematical law from my college algebra class that stated that white people plus violent acts plus minorities equals racism.

But naturally, the AP ends up creating its own news. As long as they can perpetuate the inevitably jumped-to conclusions of bigotry, they can cover the ensuing backlash of racial tensions. In turn, they don't run out of lead stories for months on end. It's like setting a starving Somali child loose on Sally Struthers's fridge.

Actually, "gluttony" paints the truly accurate picture. This story offers absolutely nothing of striking significance. Who cares? What will this story change nationally that makes any difference whatsoever? No one outside of North Carolina "needs" anything coverage of this scandal could yield; they just have a perverse desire to know more so strong, they can easily trick themselves

into actually believing the story means anything whatsoever.

So they glut themselves on absolutely useless information with no lasting significance. And in turn, the national media glut themselves on the attention their coverage gets. Like spoiled children throwing random temper-tantrums to make Mommy pay attention, the outlets could care less if their actions actually mean anything for better or worse. What do they care? They got someone's attention, didn't they?

It never stops. Never will. Yes, the media have businesses to run so that they can continue to "serve" the public (though I use that term loosely sometimes). Yes, they have to make the public want to tune in to or read them, and that means acquiescing to the peoples' demands to some degree. But the question remains: who, exactly, does this "serve"?

I feel deep-seated concern sometimes for my own future as a member of the media. My generation needs to be the one to make up for meaningless, morbid entertainment that masquerades as meaningful journalism.

To my fellow reporters, editors, photographers and publishers: better put on the coffee. We're in for a long night, at this rate.

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Letters should be no longer than 250 words. Write us: letters to the Editor, 800 University Drive, Wells Hall #2, Maryville, Mo. 64468; or email northwestmissourian@hotmail.com.

CAMPUSTALK

Are you addicted to Facebook and why?



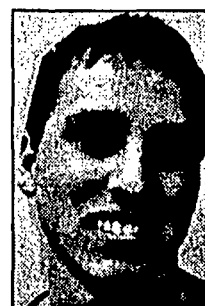
"No, because I have better things to do,"
Krista Busacker
Art



"Yes, because I get to meet new people and I get to catch up with friends from high school,"
Rashad McKinnie
Physical Education



"I'm highly addicted to Facebook because I can keep in touch with friends from high school and write messages to friends in college,"
Tiffany Wade
International Business



"I am addicted to a point, I just use it for social interaction"
Rusty Ruble
Recreation



"No, but I am addicted to MySpace. Facebook doesn't have the music aspect that MySpace does,"
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Faculty member investigates poverty

By Evan Young
S271604@nwmissouri.edu

It's said that money isn't everything, but for a single mother, it certainly counts for something.

Ten years ago, a group of researchers, including one current Northwest faculty member, had the opportunity to enter the lives of nine single, first-time African-American mothers living in poverty.

Now, Sheila Brookes, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, and her fellow researchers share their findings in a new book, "Keepin' On: The Everyday Struggles of Young Families in Poverty."

The book describes how the mothers handled parenthood and poverty at the same time, living in a major U.S. city.

Working with the Early Head Start program, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the researchers spent five years interviewing and observing the mothers, their children, family members, friends and the fathers—one of whom, according to Brookes, was interviewed from prison.

Interviews were held with the mothers every three months. The talks took place at the families' homes so the research team could get a better understanding of the neighborhood in which they lived.

Brookes said everyday problems the average family faces are often devastating for an impoverished single family.

"For example, if I woke up this morning and had a flat tire, I could go ask my neighbor to help me, I could call a friend or I could call AAA," she said. "Usually, if they had a flat tire, they would have no spare to begin with."



"There wasn't a support system they could call on. Trying to pull resources was very difficult."

Brookes said the impact of violence in the children's lives was staggering. She cited the case of one mother, who, in a period of nine months, witnessed the murders of both her brother and boyfriend. The boyfriend was a "significant father figure" to her daughter, who was about to begin kindergarten.

No statistic could have prepared her for the firsthand experience, Brookes said.

"I had done the murder rate, the violence in the community," she said, "but to actually be driving down the street with the mom in the car and she says, 'That's right where he was murdered,' that's pretty different."

"Keepin' On" was co-written by three faculty members at the University of Missouri-Columbia—Kathy Thornburg, director of the Center for Family Policy and Research, Mark Fine and Jean Ispa, both professors in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies.

Ispa said she was surprised by how sincerely the mothers regarded love and relationships.

"I think there's a stereotype that says these people regard relationships frivolously, but almost all of them really thought their relationships were going to last," she said.

Brookes shared the same feelings, and said the group was able to see the role of the fathers in a different manner than what is commonly seen of them. She said they were very involved with their children's lives and came through financially, whether it was with monthly child support payments or a new pair of shoes.

Ispa said the road to getting rid of poverty begins with good public transportation and

quality childcare. Single parent families, she said, often cannot afford to buy or maintain a vehicle and must find other ways of getting to work.

Though it's been over five years since their interviews came to a close, the research team still keeps in touch with the women. Brookes said after seeing the obstacles they had to face, she realized how little society pays attention to poverty.

"We often, as Americans, think we can get out of poverty," Brookes said. "Pretty much the tradition of, 'Anybody can make it in America,' is getting harder and harder to make a reality."

She said social services offered to families in poverty should be long-term, not simply "band-aids" that temporarily fix their problems.

"Every little thing can be so impactful to their lives," Brookes said. "What we need to realize as a society is that people can achieve, but we have to help them, and we have to commit long-term help."

Brookes said a common misconception of the impoverished is that they do not take the initiative to support themselves.

"It doesn't mean they're not hardworking," she said. "People working for low wages are very hardworking. But the low wages aren't enough to make them self-sufficient."

"Is anyone really self-sufficient? We all, in some way or another, depend on others."

"Keepin' On" was released in late March, published by Brookes Publishing. Thornburg said she looks forward to the average person learning about life below the poverty line.

"The only reason I did it was because I think the word needs to get out to the general public and the professionals who work with families, to hear the voices of those living in poverty," she said. "There needs to be a greater understanding of their hopes, dreams and disparities, and how resilient in many ways they are."

CAMPUSBRIEFS

Northwest students take home computing honors

Five Northwest students picked up awards at two contests during the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges Central Plains Region conference Saturday, April 8.

At the CCSC-Central Plains Student Web Contest, Patrick Sasser, Interactive Digital Media-New Media major, won first place for Best Visual Design/Layout. Joshua Collins, also an IDM-New Media major, won first place for Best Content.

At the Student Programming Contest, the team of computer science majors Brandon Rockhold, King Kwan and Brandon Heck took home first place programming awards. The trio took home the honors after competing against 18 other teams from nine colleges and universities in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

Verification moves to CatPAWS next fall

Northwest Registrar Linda Girard has announced starting in Fall 2006 students will be able to use their CatPAWS accounts to verify enrollment and personal information.

Students seeking to verify online may do so anytime after Aug. 15 by logging on to the Nwmissouri.edu and clicking CatPAWS on the "quick tools" drop-down menu.

The new service allows students to avoid lines and receive early notification regarding "holds" (such as a past-due accounts). All students must verify prior to picking up their textbooks.

More information about online verification will be available to students when they return textbooks and laptop computers at the end of the spring trimester. The Registrar's Office will also post complete details on the Northwest Web site as the fall trimester approaches.

GRAND TOUR



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

THE OFFICIAL NORTHWEST presidential residence, the Thomas Gaunt House, was open to the public on Wednesday from 4 to 6 p.m. The house was built in 1870 and is the oldest building on campus.

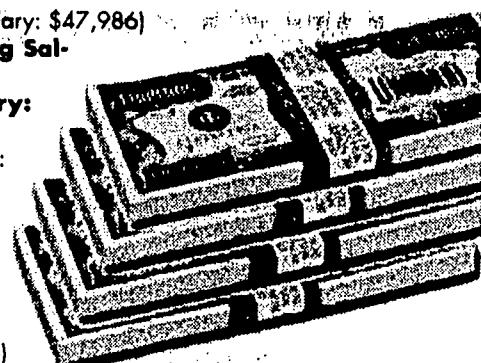
Into the real world: The 9 top jobs for new graduates in 2006

After Spring commencement April 29, Northwest graduates will begin searching for their niche in the job market. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the number of new college graduates hired will be up 4.5 percent from last year, with higher starting salaries.

The NACE released a list of the top nine most in-demand jobs for bachelor's degree graduates, according to their Winter 2006 Salary Survey. The jobs in bold coincide with bachelor's degree programs offered at Northwest.

1. **Private Accounting** (Average Starting Salary: \$44,111)
2. **Management Trainee (Entry-Level Management)** (Average Starting Salary: \$38,790)
3. **Sales** (Average Starting Salary: \$38,402)
4. Design/Construction Engineering (Average Starting Salary: \$47,986)
5. **Financial/Treasury Analysis** (Average Starting Salary: \$46,138)
6. **Public Accounting** (Average Starting Salary: \$44,287)
7. Project Engineering (Average Starting Salary: \$49,653)
8. **Teaching** (Average Starting Salary: \$29,016)
9. **Consulting** (Average Starting Salary: \$50,460)

(Source: Careerbuilder.com)



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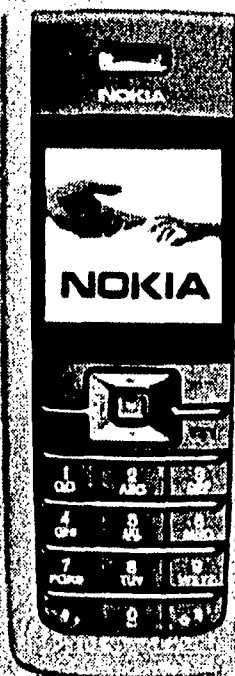
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Weight gain not an option

As I sit here eating a full pint of ice cream, I can think of one thing I am truly thankful for this year.

I did not gain the "Freshman 15."

Many other things have happened that I am thankful for, but this one stands out in my mind. Walking across campus this spring, I noticed people around me that seemed to waddle more than they did eight months ago. Thankfully, many things can be done to either keep the weight off or stay away from it next year.

Although gallons of alcohol are consumed by many individuals, that alone cannot be the only thing blamed for the gained weight. In a study taken at Rutgers University in New Jersey, 67 incoming students gained an average of seven pounds between fall and spring while regularly eating at university dining halls. With the Student Union being basically the only place to get a meal on the Northwest campus, other than the Station, it causes a problem for students here.

When the decision to either starve or go get a big plate of steaming Chinese food comes up, the choice made usually won't benefit the student.

Coli's Call



Coli Arnold
Community Editor

I haven't gained the "Freshman 15" because I'm lazy. While that doesn't make a lot of sense, it means that I'm too lazy to walk from my dorm to the Union to eat most days. A granola bar and some water usually keeps me happy until I can conveniently

stop in somewhere to eat on my way by.

What goal should I have to keep off the weight for next year? Actually exercising. Whether doing so at the Recreation Center or popping in a Denise Austin video at home, keeping active will be the key. Living off campus makes exercise a little more difficult, but if someone lives only a few blocks away, attempting to walk to campus always makes for a good start.

College students shouldn't be afraid. Don't starve yourself, but don't splurge on cookie dough at midnight the night before an assignment is due. Being worried about your weight isn't necessarily a bad thing if you can do something about it. For those freshmen that didn't gain the dreaded 15, a word of caution goes out to you—watch out for your sophomore year.

With that, I am finished. Just like my pint of ice cream.

Easter a time for faith, reflection

As we gather with our family and friends to celebrate the Easter holiday we reflect on the many blessings that have been given to each of us.

Easter holds a special meaning for the Christian community, and during this time we reflect on the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

It is important that we respect the beliefs held by other religious communities. All religions command love for our fellow man. I believe that the love of God is reflected by the love we show for one another.

Acts of kindness in which we do not ask and do not expect rewards are godly acts. They demonstrate a love of God and respect for what He has created and the responsibility He has given us.

Governor's Desk



Matt Blunt
Governor

Let us also remember to pray for the men and women of our armed forces who are not able to celebrate this joyous holiday with their loved ones.

My wish for them is that they will continue to feel the love and support from not only their families and friends,

but also from a grateful state and country and that God brings each one of them safely back home.

We share a belief that religious faith is powerful and that all faiths are united by a generosity of spirit. In all circumstances, our faith and our beliefs are part of something much larger than ourselves.

Melanie, Branch and I wish for you a blessed and happy Easter.

Easing the load on our teachers

Every child has a right to an education. Education, though, is much more than simply memorizing facts.

It's about giving every child a chance to reach his or her own potential. Our teachers strive to do that on a daily basis, and for that we are very glad.

I believe all children can learn, and think we need to help teachers achieve that goal. However, every child has different needs and different abilities. That is why the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) is critical for our children's education.

I have made IDEA a priority for education. Special education requires patience and dedication from teachers, children and parents. Worries about funding should be the last thing on their minds. That is why, since I have come to Congress,

Straight Talk



Sam Graves
U.S. Congressman

we have increased funding for the IDEA program by 55 percent.

Special education, though, is about much more than money. Paperwork is a major hassle for teachers and school administrators. Every moment spent filling out forms is one less minute devoted

to teaching children.

A teacher's time is much better spent grading papers than filling them out. If we want to attract and retain quality teachers we should work to make their lives easier, not more difficult.

Preparing every child for his or her future is a noble goal. Their future success depends on their present development. IDEA can help children fulfill their dreams and I am proud to be one of its biggest supporters.



Clarifying eminent domain

Last week, the Missouri House of Representatives took decisive action to protect the property rights of Missouri's land and homeowners when House Bill 1944, the eminent domain reform legislation, passed with a vote of 154 to 4.

This legislation limits the power of government to use eminent domain and forbids the use of eminent domain for solely economic development purposes.

In June of 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Kelo vs. New London* that governments can exercise the power of eminent domain for the sole purpose of economic development.

This decision laid the groundwork for elected officials to take homes, farms, neighborhoods, and even churches and replace them with job-producing tax-generating shopping centers and "box-stores."

The abuses of eminent domain have not been limited by geography, and while it was the *New London* Case on the East Coast that mustered

Capitol Report



Brad Leger
Missouri Representative

the greatest attention, similar abuses have taken place right here in Missouri.

One of the most prominent was in Sunset Hills in the St. Louis area where the City Council tried to level an entire neighborhood so they could build a shopping center.

As a result of the Supreme Court's action, Gov. Matt Blunt formed the Eminent Domain Task Force to study the issue in preparation for the upcoming legislative session.

After months of deliberations, House Bill 1944 became the legislative result of the task force. First, HB 1944 prohibits condemning authorities from taking property to simply increase the tax base, tax revenues, or employment of a community.

It affirms that eminent domain cannot be used to take private property unless the property is determined to be "blighted" and it specifically prohibits farmland from being declared blighted so that economic developers cannot take our farmland to turn it

into factories.

It requires private and public utilities, electric cooperatives, and common carriers to go through additional eminent domain proceedings if they seek to expand on the original purpose for which land was taken.

It also ends the veil of secrecy around eminent domain proceedings by requiring condemning authorities to give landowners 30 days written notice before beginning negotiation for the land and another 30 days before filing a condemnation petition when negotiations have failed.

Crafting a bill of this magnitude and securing majority support from a diverse legislative body was no easy task, but when it comes to protecting our homes, our churches and our land, it is not partisan nor political, it is simply good public policy.

Property rights are a cornerstone of our country and should never be violated to simply profit another.

Missouri has a long and proud tradition of protecting property rights and we must fight to protect these rights and preserve this proud heritage for future generations.

No martyrdom for Moussaoui

By Jack Ingram
Mustang Daily

(U-WIRE) SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. -- With the sentencing phase of Zarcarias Moussaoui underway in Arlington, Va., the jury will determine what punishment

befits him -- the terrorist allegedly involved in the Sept. 11 attacks. In doing so, the jury will send a message to the world, a message not only about how

America treats convicted terrorists, but how we treat convicts of all other creeds.

One doesn't need to be a genius to predict the fate of Moussaoui. I wouldn't be surprised if his execution is expedited. After all, the man basically tied the noose around his neck while testifying on his own behalf, even encouraging the jury to vote for his execution in hopes that if we do execute him, he will become a martyr.

Mr. Moussaoui: If your aim is to get killed, your chances are looking good. I mean, as far as the death penalty goes, statistically you're a prime candidate. First of all, if you're looking to be executed, America is a good country to be

on death row; globally 97 percent of all executions take place in China, Iran, Yemen and ... the U.S.

Also, you're black. Well, you sort

of look black, and according to the Death Penalty Information Center, 34 percent of inmates executed since 1977 have been

"black," while 2.3 percent were classified as "other." Since I think you are French or something, let's just be safe in our estimate, and combine the two statistics in order to say that you have a 36.3 percent chance of getting the death penalty, based on your race alone. But, also according to the DPIC, in cases where the victim was "white," 80 percent of those cases delivered a death sentence. So adding it all up, it looks as if your chances of receiving the death penalty are around 116.3 percent. (Yes, I do know that these statistics

cannot be combined like this -- It's a joke, no letters to the editor suggesting I take a stats class will be necessary)

The only other thing that I could imagine might help you get the death penalty is if you were a mentally retarded child. Since 1990, other than China, Congo, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Yemen, the U.S. is the only country to openly execute children. As a matter of fact, the U.S. has executed the most children -- 19 -- between 1990 and 2003. And in the 25 states that do permit the execution of the mentally retarded and mentally ill, 35 such individuals have had their death sentences carried out.

If all this wasn't enough, you hap-

pen to be on trial in a jurisdiction that is south of the Mason Dixon line. Interestingly, of all executions, approximately 83 percent occur in the southern region of the U.S. In fact, Virginia alone has performed 94 of the 1,004 executions that have been conducted since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977, a statistic ranking Virginia second only to Texas in terms of executions.

So to the people from Virginia sitting on this jury, I've got one thing to ask: Only 94? Clearly, the citizens of Virginia are satisfied with being the first losers when it comes to executing people. This matter is of too much national

importance to be left to such a second-rate state like Virginia, which apparently likes to equivocate about silly things like the Eighth Amendment. I say, move the trial to Texas, a state responsible for over one-third of all executions in the U.S.

So, why should we give this man what he wants?

Why should he get the easy way out? Why should he be made an example of all that is wrong with the capital punishment system -- an example for the entire world

to see? Why should we make a martyr out of this loser?

We shouldn't. Let's not let this maniac make a mockery of our laws and our humanity.

MAILCALL

Dear Ms. Stangl, Editor and the rest of the *Missourian* Team,

I would like to thank you and the rest of the *Missourian* team for the job shadowing experience. I thought that the entire process of making a newspaper was a lot of fun. I also enjoyed interviewing and writing an article for the paper.

I thought the difficult part of your job would be keeping on top of everything. I would also like to thank you for taking me to the Phi Sigma Kappa tent for pancakes and sausage. The reporter's pad and pen are awesome, too. I would also like to thank you for putting me in the paper. The worst part of the day was having to leave. Thanks for all the stuff you showed me and for introducing me to the rest of the team.

Sincerely,
Andrew Morris

Summer prices expected to rise

By Stephanie Stangl
S245651@nwmissouri.edu

Trips home are few and far between.

Northwest freshman Keri Davis only makes the two-hour drive home to Bellevue, Neb., once every couple of months because of rising gas prices—even with her Saturn SLI getting 34 miles per gallon on the highway.

She used to go home every other week.

"It's kind of annoying," Davis said. "In college you don't have much money to pay for other things. It seems like all my checks are going towards gas now."

Gas prices are expected to exceed \$3 this summer—leaving some residents wondering why and what they can do about it.

Jason White, assistant professor of economics at Northwest, said one reason for the increase is lack of new refineries.

"A possible cause is the lack of refining capacity we have in the United States," White said. "Most of our oil to gas refineries are running at near 100 percent capacity, we haven't built a new oil to gas refinery in probably 25 to 30 years."

Gas spikes have forced sophomore Eric Mackey to abandon driving all together and to leave his Dodge Caravan at home in Gladstone, Mo. Mackey also hopes the government does something to counterbalance rising gas prices.

"I just hope if they raise gas prices that they will also

raise minimum wage," Mackey said.

Consumers like Davis and Mackey might not be able to control sky-high gasoline prices, but they both carpool to cut back on fuel usage.

Additionally, there are other ways to optimize fuel efficiency.

While venturing out on road trips this summer, keep in mind Americans consume almost 9 billion barrels of gasoline daily—43 percent of the total global daily gasoline consumption, according to the Alliance to Save Energy, an agency promoting energy efficiency worldwide.

With Missouri gasoline prices reaching an all time high—currently \$2.58, up from \$2.14 one year ago—Michael Right, vice president of public affairs for AAA Missouri, has many tips to make cars more fuel-efficient.

When planning a trip, take the most fuel-efficient vehicle you own and chain trips together. Small trips and cold starts rob your car of fuel efficiency.

"There's no need to fire up the SUV for a quick trip to the grocery store," Right said.

Gas mileage decreases rapidly at speeds over 60 mph. Each 5 mph above 60 mph is like paying an additional 10 cents per gallon of gasoline.

Additionally, Right suggests make sure tires are properly inflated to increase fuel efficiency by a much as 3.3 percent. Checking and replacing air filters regularly could improve a car's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent.



PHOTO BY DENNIS SHARKEY / NWMISSOURIAN
NO SMOKING has become a regular part of Wednesday nights at the Pub, but starting in May every first Saturday of the month will also be smoke free.

Pub expands no smoking nights

By Dennis Sharkey
S261002@nwmissouri.edu

The air keeps getting cleaner at the Maryville Pub.

Co-owner John Yates said "Ashless Wednesdays" at the Pub has been so popular it is now expanding to the first Saturday of every month starting in May.

Ever since the popular local hangout opened back up last month, every Wednesday night has been a smoke-free environment.

Yates said he took the idea from Northwest marketing class surveys of what people were looking for.

He said one of the things that stuck out was a place to go that was still in a bar setting, but without the smoke.

Yates said he did some surveying

of his own around town and found the same results from his conversations.

He said the idea was to expand the smoke-free nights if it went over well, but he didn't really expect it to be this fast. He also said the response from the smokers has been good too.

"I thought it might take a while to get going but I've been pleasantly surprised," Yates said. "The nice thing is it hasn't cut down on the amount of smokers coming in."

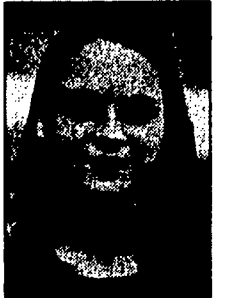
He said Wednesday nights are not exactly good nights for people with families to get out.

The idea of having smoke-free nights every first Saturday of the month lets people with families have a time they can plan to go out.

Yates said that the front sidewalk of the Pub has now been nicknamed the "Smoker's Lounge."

Grad to Work at City Hall

By Jared Bailey
S267500@nwmissouri.edu



Christina Twaddell
New GIS Technician

Forget the classroom; she is getting a desk alongside government officials.

Christina Twaddell, December 2005 graduate of Northwest Missouri State University, will be starting her new job May 1, in Maryville City Hall.

Only a few months after receiving her degree, Twaddell was hired for a position as a G.I.S. (geographic information system) technician. Twaddell, who majored in geography, will soon be designing maps and other documents revealing everything from sub-division projects to exact locations of Maryville's fire hydrants.

The new job will also involve communicating with State and Federal Emergency Management Agencies with regards to regulations and ordinances of the city. It will require the interpretation of flood plain boundaries and necessitate the reviewing of databases containing lots of information about the region. This career will put all the skills learned at the school to good use.

"We are in a good position with the University," Greg Decker, director of public works, said. "They have good people. It is good to be able to tap into that resource. We have pretty high expectations of Christina, as we do all our people."

Twaddell grew up in Maryville and is glad to be staying in town, close to her family and friends. She is very grateful for all the help with which the staff of the geography department has provided. Not having to move somewhere far away means a lot to her.

"When I graduated from college, I wanted a long-term job and I wanted it to be in Maryville," Twaddell said. "I just didn't think it was possible for me. I got what I wanted. I found a job that was geography related and was in Maryville. Geography is where we are and who we are."

Adlnk would like to thank all the Spring 2006 officers for a great year!

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Events: Kristi Creason
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Congratulations to incoming Fall 2006 officers!

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And of course a huge thank you to Advisors Fred and Jacquie Lamer, who make Adlnk possible!

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Jerry Lutz, Manager

Maryville High cuts 'Footloose' in musical

By Alison Glasscock
5270226@nwmissouri.edu

The smell of wet paint permeates the air in the gym at Maryville High School. The director yells last minute corrections to the final curtain call for the high school's rendition of the Broadway Musical "Footloose."

"Footloose" tells the story of Ren, a high school senior, who moves from Chicago to the town of Bomont. Bomont is a small, backwards town run by the local preacher, who has banned rock music and dancing inside city limits.

This show tells how Ren and his friends work to abolish the no dancing law and how they bring the community closer together.

Marilyn Rhea, director of the production, said that there was one main reason for choosing this musical.

"I looked at my singers and I found a show that fit them," Rhea said. "You can teach singers to act, but you can't always teach actors to sing."

Rhea and the production team cast the show back in February. Approximately 60 cast members are involved in this musical. And since casting there have been practices at least once, sometimes twice, per week.

Practices could last for five or more hours at a time.

Scheduling these practices was difficult because of District Choir Competition, Rhea said. This was an especially difficult for those in the cast who are All State Choir members.

In addition to having a cast full of talented singers, dance is also a big part of this production. Christopher Kindle of Northwest Missouri State University choreographed all the dance numbers for "Footloose."

Northwest student Scott Harvey, is helping Rhea as the assistant director and assistant choreographer.

Rhea said that this musical was a joint effort between the high school, Northwest and the community.

Cast members said that their favorite part of being in this show was wearing the costumes.

Some also said the dancing was fun, but they like the costumes better.

"Footloose" is a non-traditional musical. It is more modern and deals with issues that teens and their families face today. According to Rhea, the cast enjoys this show so much because they can relate to the characters.

Rhea has been directing shows for 12 years and plans to retire after "Footloose."

However, this is the first time Rhea has ever directed "Footloose." Also retiring in 2006, is Technical Direc-



STEVEN SCHEFFE and Jennifer Zweifel play Ren McCormack and Ariel Moore in the musical "Footloose."

tor, Karen Sovereign.

The set of "Footloose" is a multi-dimensional set. Maryville High School art teacher Brian Lohafor, who has also helped with productions for 12 years, designed the set.

This year's set not only uses the stage in the gym, but two smaller side sets as well.

All shows will be in the

high school gym. Shows will begin at 7:30 p.m. on April 21 and 22, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 23.

"Footloose" includes two acts and a 15 minute intermission.

The show has all the favorite songs like "Let's Hear it for the Boy," "Holding Out For a Hero," and the show's theme song, "Footloose."

PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

CITYBRIEFS

Oswald challenges Thomson for State Representative seat

Farmer, writer, photographer and Democrat Richard R. Oswald, Langdon, Mo., will challenge Republican Mike Thomson, Maryville, for the District 4 State Representative seat. Currently Rep. Brad Lager, R-4, holds the seat and will run for the District 12 State Senate position. Primary elections will be held Tuesday, August 8.

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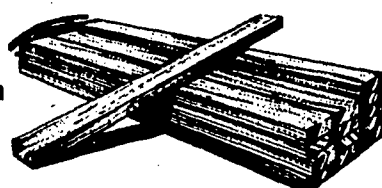


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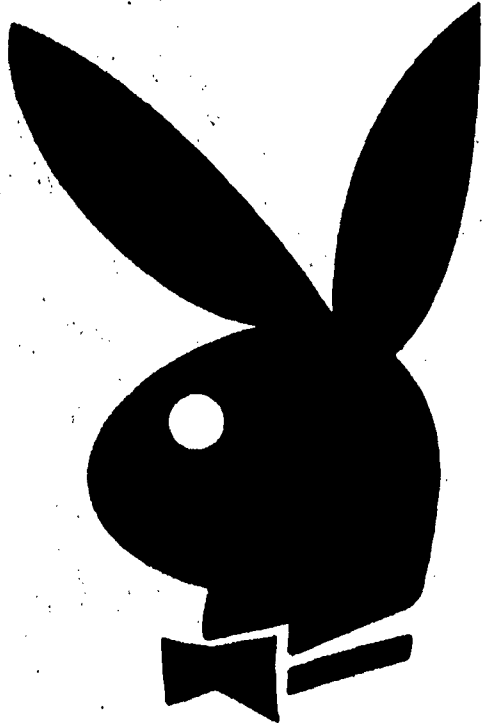
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BIRTHS

Tyson Hunter Wilmes

A son was born to Roland and Abbey Wilmes of Stanberry, Mo. Tyson weighed 6 pounds 6 ounces. He was born on April 3, 2006, at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. He joins four brother and sisters; Dominic, Vanessa, Zachery, and Wayne Wilmes. Grandparents are Michael and Jean Ann Bashor of Stanberry. Grandparents are Alfred and Fran Wilmes of Maryville. Great-grandparents are Elvin Bashor of Cameron, Mo. and Elmo and Tiny Murphy of Stanberry. Great-grandparent is Gurtude Wilmes of Maryville.

Wyatt Lindell Garner

Kenneth and Traci Garner of Maryville, had their son Wyatt on April 13, 2006 at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. He weighed 10 pounds, 6 ounces and joins a brother, Nicholas John Garner. Grandparents are Mark and Kathy Wiederholt, and Tom and Twyla Martin of Maryville. Grandparents are Captain Denzel and Shirley Garner of Memphis, Tenn. Great-grandparents are Jean and Merlin Davison of Clarinda, Iowa; A.W. and Joyce Martin of Maryville; and the late Don Wiederholt, Bertha Wiederholt-Miller, John Miller, and Tom and Jaunita Wharton. Great-grandparents are Troy and Hazel Garner of Advance, Mo., and the late Anna and Paul Lindell.

Taelyn Ann Derks

On March 31, 2006 Tad and Relette Derks of Stanberry, Mo., welcomed their daughter Taelyn at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. Taelyn weighed 8 pounds, and joins a brother, Tanner. Grandparents are Ronnie Cunningham and the late Roberta Minson of Creston, Iowa. Grandparents are Donna Black of St. Joseph, Mo., and the late Walter Derks of Stanberry, Mo.

Thomas Jonathan Wilmes & Keagan Justice Wilmes

Kerry Wilmes of Maryville, became the parents of twins, one boy and one girl, on March 29, 2006. They were born at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. Thomas weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and Keagan weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces. Grandparents are Tom and Sandy Wilmes of Maryville. Great-grandparents are LeRoy and Anne Wilmes of Golden, Mo.; Ada Mae Wilmes of Maryville; and Marvin and Phyllis Adamson of Maryville.

Ean Miles Meyer

On April 16, 2006, Tim and Jennifer Meyer of Maryville, had their son at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. He weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Grandparents are Earl and Mary Spreckelmeyer of Berger, Mo., and Gary and Rose Meyer of Conception Junction, Mo.

Kaylie Michelle Holtzclaw

Cassandra Mantzey and Dustin Holtzclaw of Maryville, had their daughter on April 16, 2006, at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. She weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces. Kaylie joins three siblings; Keyten, Kristopher and Kayden. Grandparents are Rhonda Mantzey of Hale, Mo., and C.R. Mantzey Jr. of Chillicothe, Mo. Grandparents are Tammy Frion of Maryville, and Larry Holtzclaw of Hardin, Mo. Great-grandparents are the late Mildred Mantzey and C.R. Mantzey III of Chillicothe, Mo., and Marige and Willie Ustlick of Hale, Mo. Great-grandparents are Jody and Joe Crowley of Excelsior Springs, Mo., and the late Bernice and Charles Holtzclaw.

PUBLIC SAFETY

March 8
■A Hopkins subject reported property damage to street signs in Hopkins.

■Brian J. Wolfer, 22, Maryville was

arrested on a Nodaway County warrant for burglary and stealing.

March 11
■A Skidmore, Mo., subject reported a burglary to an outbuilding at his farm.

■Melissa R. Code, 25, New Market, Iowa, was arrested for DWI. She was released on a summons after being held for the mandatory detox.

March 15
■A Skidmore, Mo., subject reported a burglary to a business in Skidmore.

March 16
■A Graham, Mo., subject reported a theft from his vehicle while it was parked at his place of employment.

March 17
■A Maryville subject reported a theft from a vehicle parked at his residence.

■A Maryville subject reported a theft from his residence.

March 20
■A Ravenwood subject reported she had been receiving harassing phone calls.

March 21
■A Burlington Junction, Mo., subject reported a theft from his vehicle.

March 22
■Officers took a report of a domestic assault in Maryville.

March 24
■A Skidmore, Mo., subject reported a theft from his farm machinery.

March 25
■A Maryville subject reported a theft from his farm.

March 27
■David N. Lewis, 34, was arrested

on a warrant out of Iowa for escaping from a Halfway House.

■A Maryville subject reported a theft from his vehicle while parked at his residence.

March 28
■A Guthrie, Minn., subject reported property damage to a residence he owns in Skidmore.

■A Blockton, Iowa, subject reported a theft from a residence in Maryville.

■Kenrick B. Julien, 52, Maryville, was arrested on a Buchanan County warrant for speeding. He was released on bond.

March 30
■A Conception Junction, Mo., subject reported a theft from his residence.

March 31
■A Maryville subject reported a theft from a vehicle on his property.

■A Burlington Junction, Mo., subject reported she had been assaulted. After investigation, this was referred to the Juvenile Office.

■Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in Maryville. No arrests were made.

April 1
■A Hopkins, Mo., subject reported a burglary to a business in Hopkins.

■A Maryville subject reported damage to her mailbox.

■A Maryville subject reported damage to her mailbox.

■A Maryville subject reported damage to her mailbox.

April 2
■Cassie A. Fletcher, 19, Parnell,

Mo., was arrested on a Nodaway County warrant for FTA/Motion to revoke probation/passing bad checks.

April 3
■Michael J. Ebrecht, 17, Maryville was arrested on a Nodaway County warrant for felony theft/stealing.

■Amy J. Gigger, 30, Pickering, Mo., was arrested on a Nodaway County warrant for FTA to Serve Sentence.

April 5
■Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in Maryville. After investigation this was referred to the Juvenile Office.

April 7
■A Bolckow, Mo., subject reported a burglary to a local business.

■A Barnard, Mo., subject reported property damage to a local business.

■A Barnard, Mo., subject reported a burglary to a local business.

■Larceny reported from a vehicle on 200 S. Prairie, property – IPOD.

■A vehicle reported stolen was recovered.

April 8
■A Maryville subject reported property damage to her residence.

■Abigail J. Runde, 18, Maryville was arrested for driving while intoxicated. She was released on summonses after being held for the mandatory detox.

■Damage to a vehicle was reported at 400 E. 5th.

April 12
■Larceny reported at 700 N. Main, property: purse and contents.

■Burglary reported on 200 N. Depot, investigation still pending.

April 13
■Towed vehicle at 300 N. Munn, vehicle was a red 2005 Focus.

■Larceny reported at 500 West Fifth, property: handgun.

■Accident reported at Sixth and Buchanan
Driver No. 1-Kersey, Deborah L., 53, Maryville –Failure to Yield
Driver No. 2-Clarke, Brian M., 20, Maryville

April 14
■Melanie A. Rogers, 19, Maryville, was arrested on minor in possession charges.

■Zachary J. Ingles, 23, Maryville, was arrested on obstructing an officer and interfering with arrest.

■David D. James, 21, Maryville, was arrested on a failure to comply charge.

■Amy C. Munro, 20, Maryville, was arrested on minor in possession charges.

■Melissa R. Owens, 19, Maryville, was arrested on minor in possession charges.

■Brandon W. Cornelius, 20, Maryville, was arrested on a failure to appear warrant.

■Dennis W. Newby, 55, was arrested on maintaining a nuisance charges.

■Property was reported stolen at 400 N. Buchanan, property – flatbed trailer.

■Sobrina J. Rhone, 21, Maryville,

was arrested on third degree assault charges.

■Sharon E. Ellison, 63, Maryville, was arrested on third degree assault charges.

■Accident reported at First and Market
Driver No. 1- Farnan, Stella M., 85, Maryville
Driver No. 2 – Graham, Dawn M., 40, Maryville

April 15
■Property was stolen from 700 S. Main, property – purse and contents

■Henry, Joseph P., 21, Maryville, was arrested on permitting a peace disturbance charges.

■Ross, Eric E., 36, Maryville, was arrested on failure to appear charges.

April 16
■Polan, Pamela M., 19, Maryville, was arrested on minor in possession of intoxicants.

■Property at 500 Buchanan was recovered, property – beer keg.

■Accident reported at Summit & Main
Driver No. 1 – Choi, Gaehee, 20, Maryville

MUNICIPAL COURT

SPEEDING

■Hernandez, Mario J., Olathe, Kan. \$112.50
■Rickel, Kenneth S., Wathena, Kan. \$95.00
■Alsop, Matthew G., Tarkio, Mo. \$79.50
■Larabee, Sara A., Burlington Jct., Mo. \$52.50
■Allen, Stephanie D., Maryville, \$56.50
■Fuller, Megan S., Maryville, \$68.50
■Stiens, Allan P., Maryville, \$64.50
■Frank, Gabriel A., Maryville, \$60.50

IMPROPER REGISTRATION

■Hinrichs, Christopher O., Maryville, \$72.50
■Jones, Adam D., Maryville, \$72.50
■Harmon, Brock A., Maryville, \$245.00

DEFECTIVE EQUIPMENT

■Schraeder, Jazmin L., Maryville, \$297.50
■Morris, Jarrett A., St. Joseph, Mo. \$250.00

CARELESS AND IMPRUDENT DRIVING

■Myrick, Stephen W., Maryville, \$595.50

DRIVING WITHOUT A VALID OPERATOR'S LICENSE

■Hernandez, Mario J., Olathe, Kan. \$250.00
■Ferry, Anthony O., Maryville, \$522.50
■Collins, Marcus W., Osceola, Iowa \$522.50
■Morris, Jarrett A., St. Joseph, Mo. \$522.50

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RIGHT HALF OF ROADWAY

■Myrick, Stephen W., Maryville, \$250.00

DRIVING WHILE REVOKED/SUSPENDED

■Garner, Calvin W., Maryville, \$522.50
■Rickel, Kenneth S., Wathena, Kan. \$522.50

FAILURE TO YIELD

■Jensen, Allan A., Stanberry, Mo. \$97.50
■Bradshaw, Nicolas L., Maryville, \$97.50

READY TO POUNCE



PHOTO BY KELLE WHITE / NWMISSOURIAN

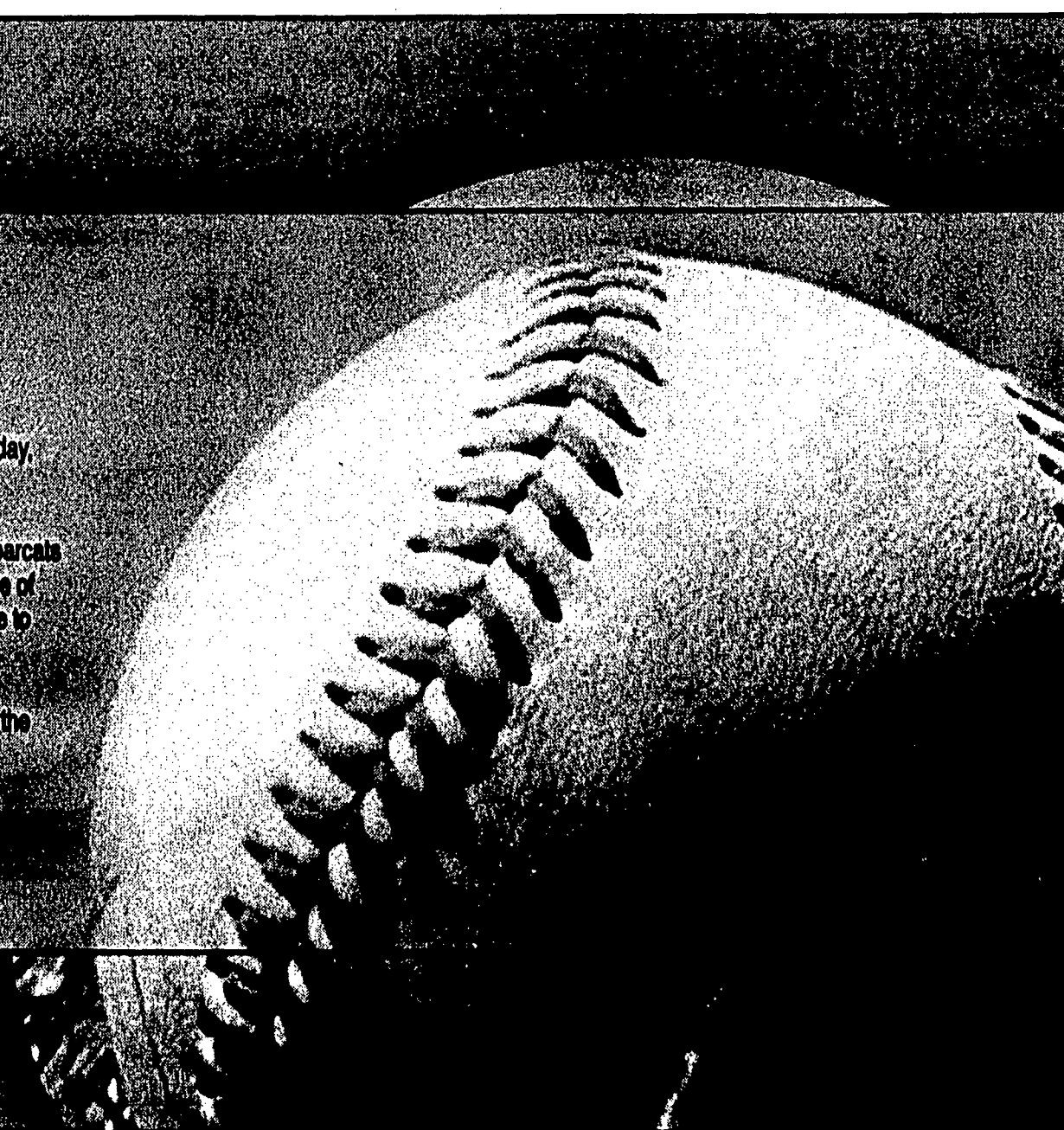
MIKE BOZARTH outruns the competition to help his team, the "Pong Champs," win an intramural football game Wednesday, April 12.

Bearcat Baseball

Come cheer on your Bearcats as they take on Upper Iowa on Saturday, April 22nd at 1 PM for Kids day.

Also, come help us pack the park on Sunday, April 23rd as the Bearcats take on Upper Iowa again at 1PM. You will have a chance to get one of the many free items we will be giving away, including a chance to win \$100!

Cheer on your Bearcats for the Bearcat home last home game of the semester, against Truman State April 28th at 1PM.



Iowa experiences most severe Mumps outbreak in 20 years

By Mike Wilson, Mike Stobbe
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - In the worst outbreak in nearly 20 years, mumps cases are spilling out of Iowa, popping up in at least seven other Midwestern states and perhaps seven more leading to promises of extra vaccine from the U.S. stockpile.

There are no deaths and few hospitalizations being reported from the disease, which health officials believe got a boost from air travel.

But the nation's federal health agency said Wednesday it's the largest outbreak in almost two decades with more than 1,000 cases and it's expected to keep growing.

It's a "cascade of transmission that's going to take a while to curtail and stop," said Julie Gerberding, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

More than 800 of the cases are in Iowa. The CDC has pledged to provide 25,000 doses of measles-mumps-rubella vaccine to the state from the agency's stockpile. And Merck & Co., the vaccine maker, is giving another 25,000 doses to the CDC for distribution to other states, Gerberding said in a briefing in Atlanta.

Iowa, the mumps hot spot, is feeling the pain in some unexpected ways.

When the track and field team from Loras College in Dubuque made the six-hour drive to St. Louis for a Washington University track meet, the runners were sent right back home.

"Washington decided that because of the mumps they didn't want schools from Dubuque competing," said Tim Calderwood, Loras' sports information director. Dubuque is in northeast Iowa, one of the areas of the state hit hardest by the mumps.

"We always have the health and safety of our athletes and of our competitors as our top priority," Calderwood said. He said none of the Loras athletes had mumps, and "we ask our opponents to trust our coaches and know that they would not bring a student who is showing symptoms of mumps to their school."

Just 37 of the college's 1,700 students have caught mumps since the first case surfaced in February, according to the school's health clinic.

Iowa public health officials say the outbreak of the annoying but rarely serious disease is no reason to cancel events or start widespread immunization clinics.

"College graduation, high school proms, we're not recommending any be canceled," said Kevin Teale, a spokesman for the Iowa Department of Public Health. "We just want to ensure that people are aware of the risk."

The source of the Iowa epidemic is unknown, but Britain experienced a mumps epidemic that peaked last year with about 56,000 cases. The Iowa mumps virus is the same variety, but health officials are still evaluating whether there's a connection.

As to its spread in the United States, Iowa health officials last week noted that two infected Iowa airline passengers carried the disease on nine different flights.

Mumps is a virus spread by coughing and sneezing. The most common symptoms are fever, headache and swollen salivary glands under the jaw. But it can lead to more severe problems, such as hearing loss, meningitis and fertility-diminishing swollen testicles.

No deaths and few complications have been reported from the current epidemic. Just one person in Iowa developed encephalitis but has recovered, said Teale.

Once a childhood rite of passage,

mumps has been on the wane since a vaccine came along in the late 1960s. A two-dose shot is recommended for all children, and is considered very effective but not completely at preventing it. About 10 percent of people who get both doses are still susceptible, Gerberding said.

That's why there are hundreds of people in Iowa a state of nearly 3 million who are turning up with the disease, Gerberding said.

So far cases are reported in Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. Kansas confirmed more than 140 cases, Nebraska reported more than 100, and Illinois had more than 80 numbers that dwarf mumps reports in typical years. Most other states affected by the outbreak were still reporting fewer than 50 cases.

However, the CDC said it was investigating cases in seven other states.

Iowa and Wisconsin officials were seeing cases more often in universities than elementary schools. However, Iowa's Waterloo public school district reported 10 cases of mumps seven students and three adults.

Spokeswoman Sharon Miller said the district is focused on alerting parents.

"We send a letter home to parents explaining the situation and facts about mumps so they can be on the watch," Miller said. "School nurses also review immunization records to look for situations where there may be a gap."

Meanwhile, Teale said health officials are not urging event cancellations.

"On one hand, given the 800-plus cases we have, this is a serious situation," Teale said. "On the same token, we have 2.8 million people in Iowa, so the relative risk of any single visitor getting mumps is extremely low."

MEDICARE: Many residents oppose new drug plan

continued from 1A

Riding said the plan is just confusing to seniors and they don't know where to go for help.

He also said this plan would cost Missouri seniors an additional 17 billions of more dollars under this plan because of the negotiating restraints on Medicare. Under the law Medicare cannot negotiate prices directly with the drug companies.

Riding said the law is written to benefit the companies and not the public. He said citizens should flood the legislator's offices who see nothing wrong with the plan like Sen. Jim Talent and Rep. Sam Graves.

He said he commends the president for coming up with a prescription drug plan but said this plan has serious problems.

"It's always cherry picked with Bush and with his allies here in the state," Riding said. "If they were really

honest and really wanted to be fair to their constituents, they would admit this is not a good program."

Cheryl Hainkel, with the Federation of Government Employees, works with many Social Security issues in Missouri's sixth district.

She said the main function of the department is to determine the eligibility of seniors but the help stops there.

She said the department is not allowed to help seniors answer questions about plans or help them choose a plan.

Another complaint she has heard of seniors is having a hard time getting through to the Medicare phone lines. And once through, many questions are still not answered.

Hainkel said she doesn't know why Rep. Graves likes the plan, but planned on asking him in a scheduled meeting this week.

"He has to be getting complaints from his constituents because all the other congressmen are," Hainkel said.

CAMPUSBRIEF

Personal Web sites to be removed

Northwest Information Systems announced all personal Web pages will be deleted from the University's VMS server in late May.

A new IIS Web page server, CATpages, is replacing the server, and will be in place before the beginning of the fall trimester.


The VMS server, also called INFO and K95, is used to store personal (non-University) Web pages—those with a tilde symbol (~) in the address—created and posted by faculty, staff and students.

Faculty, staff and students who want to save their Web pages must save them to a notebook computer or network storage location then restore them to the new server.


Organization Web pages have also been stored on INFO. Information Systems will move all organization sites that are up to date to the new CATpages server. A list of these sites is available at Info.nwmissouri.edu/webpages under "Campus Organizations." Organizations whose sites are not listed and are up to date can e-mail Crystal Ward at S202157@nwmissouri.edu to request those pages be saved.

Academic and administrative offices and departments with pages on INFO should also contact Ward so their pages can be moved to the new Windows and content manager-based Web site.

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- Northwest Balloons
- Northwest Balloons
- Center

CONCERT: Alumni return to campus to appear in choir

continued from 1A

catching up with old friends.

Rudick said she highlighted all the people on the program she knew so she could talk to them.

She also looked over the music before the coming back on campus and was a little nervous and excited about the performance.

Rudick said she noticed her old dorm building was gone and that she didn't know her way around campus anymore.

Freshman Ross Hastert said the overall concert was amazing. Hastert said his favorite part of concert was when the alumni sang with the Tower Choir.

He said it was good to see people back and that the concert was definitely worth his time.

"I definitely give them a nine or a 10," Hastert said.

ANTICIPATED: Hy-Vee opening soon

continued from 1A

minimum value.

The floral department is a new commodity to Maryville Hy-Vee, along with a 1-hour photo.

Along with the services customers can expect, they can also take advantage of the bigger kitchen with more to offer including Chinese food.

"Chinese is brand new and Chinese in all the Hy-Vee's do really well, it's one of their top lines," Hamilton said. "We just wanted to keep with it (the times), its another thing Hy-Vee offers as a one-stop area now."

Hy-Vee will also offer a broader range of items to choose from in their regular kitchen including top of the line deli meats and an array of breads, Hamilton said.

The expansion has also paved the road to more jobs, Hamilton said they have nearly doubled the number of employees.

Giving the customer anything they

need played a major role in the purpose of a new Hy-Vee.

"Our store was outdated for the area, we needed more space so we could carry a variety for our Hy-Vee customers," Hamilton said. "We pretty much outgrew our store."

With the opening not far away, customers have shown much eagerness for this to open.

"All the customers really can't wait; the community can not wait for this to open up," Hamilton said.

Maryville resident Lorraine O'Donnell is ready to shop in the new store.

"I think it will be just the same service that we've had, which is very important. There will be a few more items probably that we've not been able to get," O'Donnell said. "I think it's a good move for them."

One change customers can expect is not having a drive-up lane to pickup groceries. Now they will have employees push groceries out to customer's cars.

STUDENTSENATE ELECTIONRESULTS

President: Sara Chamberlain
Vice President: Alex Drury
Secretary: Megan McMurphy
Treasurer: Adam Watson

Senior Class President: Andrea Garcia
Senior Class Representatives: Rebecca Seitz, Jon Lowrey, Taylor Railsback

Junior Class President: Nisha Bharti
Junior Class Representatives: Sarah York, Jeff Norris, Amanda Preston

Sophomore Class President: Kyle Greenlee
Sophomore Class Representatives: Tasha Cockrum, Britney Short, Jen Martin

On-Campus Representatives: Kristin Pond, Beyza Ayadur

Off-Campus Representatives: Brett Karrasch

There are still seats available for On and Off Campus representatives, if you are interested in these positions please contact Andrea Garcia, S247206 or e-mail Ssenate@nwmissouri.edu.

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GRADUATION Celebration

Jennifer,

From K to college, only you truly know how hard it was to earn this degree. But we are so proud that you know I'm crying just writing this.

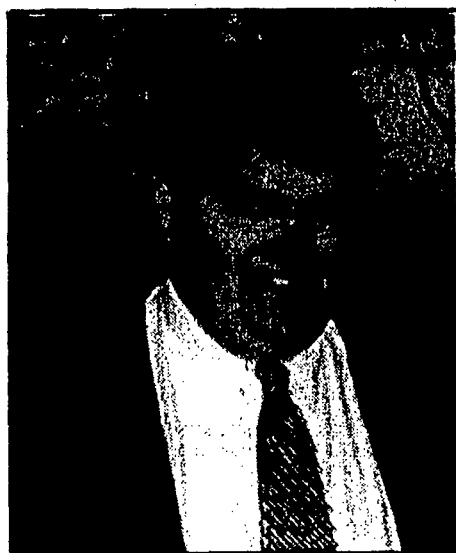


All our love, Mom, Papa, and all your family.

Cole,

We're proud of you!

From, Your Family



Congratulations Melissa Hatem

Northwest Missouri State University
Graduate Bachelor of Science
Corporate Recreation/Wellness

Touch Your Dream

We are so Proud of your accomplishment!

Love Mom Dad & Bobby



Congratulations Meghan!

We are so so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad and Craig



LeAnn,

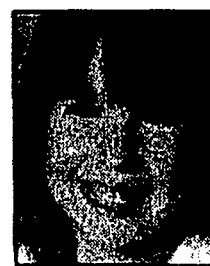
You are a light of our lives- We are so proud of you and your accomplishments!

Love Mom and Dad



LINDSEY MORFORD

From pigtails to wedding veils!!! We are so proud of your accomplishments; in school and in life.
May God bless you richly.
Mom and Dad, Melissa, Tony and Cindy, Jessica and of course, Eric



To: Brooke Lynn



Love and Prayers, Mom, Dad, and Courtney

We are so proud of you. You are caring, giving, and a hardworking young woman. A college graduate. What and accomplishment Ms. Dake!



"Grace Notes"
Kathleen Grace Keefhaver

CONGRATULATIONS KERRI !!

Seems like "yesterday" you were getting on the bus for Kindergarten and now you're graduating from college!

We are VERY proud of you and wish you only the very best!!

Love, Mom - Dad - Cola - Hilary

CONGRATULATIONS
Student Publication
Graduates

Dennis Sharkey
Jessica Lavicky
Billy Burns
Cole Young
Shannon Polaski
Noah Hurst
Patrick Sasser
Brent Chappelow
Christine Murtha
Lindsey Shearer
Dia McKee
P.J. Eldred
Tammy VanHouten



THE RAIL

Campus

700TH HEAVEN

Northwest tennis coach Mark Rosewell talked about his monumental 700th victory at Northwest. **see 2B**

NORRIS NAMED MIAA PITCHER OF THE WEEK

Northwest pitcher Josh Norris was named the MIAA Pitcher of the Week for the week of April 10-16. **see 3B**

'CATS WIN THIRD STRAIGHT

The Northwest baseball team won 12-9 on the road against NAIA school William Jewell Wednesday afternoon. The Bearcats have now won three straight games. **see 3B**

Local

'HOUNDS FALL AGAIN

The Maryville High School baseball team lost two games this past week in the Pony Express Tournament in St. Joseph, Mo. **see 3B**

Statewide

ROYALS LOSE 12TH GAME

The Kansas City Royals continued Wednesday as they fell 4-1 to the Chicago White Sox. The Royals have lost 10 straight and fall to 2-12. The Royals host the Cleveland Indians this weekend, starting Friday.

CARDINALS BEAT PIRATES

The St. Louis Cardinals defeated host Pittsburgh Pirates 4-0 Wednesday. Pitcher Chris Carpenter had a no-hitter going into the sixth inning and recorded his 1,000th career strikeout. The Cardinals (9-6) now host the Chicago Cubs Friday.

BLUES' STREAK ENDS

Last season, the St. Louis Blues got rid of nearly all of their players, shipping defenseman Chris Pronger to the Oilers in September and also dealing Doug Weight, Mike Sillinger and Eric Weinrich. Team owners Bill and Nancy Laurie said it was necessary to gut the roster and steer away from long-term contracts to facilitate a sale, and the result was an end to a run of 25-straight playoff appearances that stretched to 1978-79.

National

DUKE PLAYERS INDICTED

Attorney Bill Cotter represents Duke lacrosse player Collin Finnerly, who along with fellow sophomore Reade Seligmann was indicted Monday on charges of first-degree rape, sexual offense and kidnapping. Each posted \$400,000 bond after their pre-down arrests early Tuesday, and both were released within hours.

School officials have declined to say whether it plans to discipline either of the players, although they have noted the university has historically suspended students charged with a felony. Cotter said Wednesday that Finnerly, of Garden City, N.Y., has left Durham, although he wouldn't say where he went.

District Attorney Mike Nifong, who has not granted interviews in weeks, said Tuesday he planned to make no comments about the case outside the courtroom, said he still hopes to link a third man to the alleged attack.

'Cats fall back

By Brett Barger

S203501@nwmissouri.edu

After a rough weekend at the Northwest classic, the Northwest softball team (31-11, 8-4 MIAA) is out of the Top 25 poll.

The squad remains tied for fifth in the North Central region, along with St. Cloud State. However, they continued their ascension in the MIAA Tuesday with a sweep of Truman State and clinched a spot in the conference postseason tournament.

"That sweep against Truman

was so big," coach Susan Anderson said. "We really needed to get that sweep."

In the first game, the 'Cats won 1-0, with the RBI coming off a double by junior Lindsay Stephenson in the top of the third.

Freshman Cola Krueger (10-2) pitched a complete game two-hit shutout, while striking out seven.

In the second game, the 'Cats got the same result, winning 1-0. Junior Linellis Santiago hit her third home run

see 'CATS on 2B

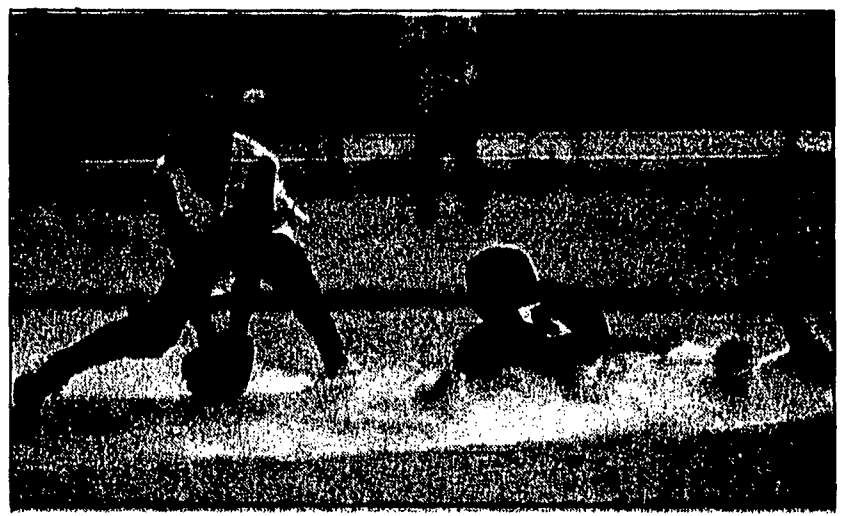
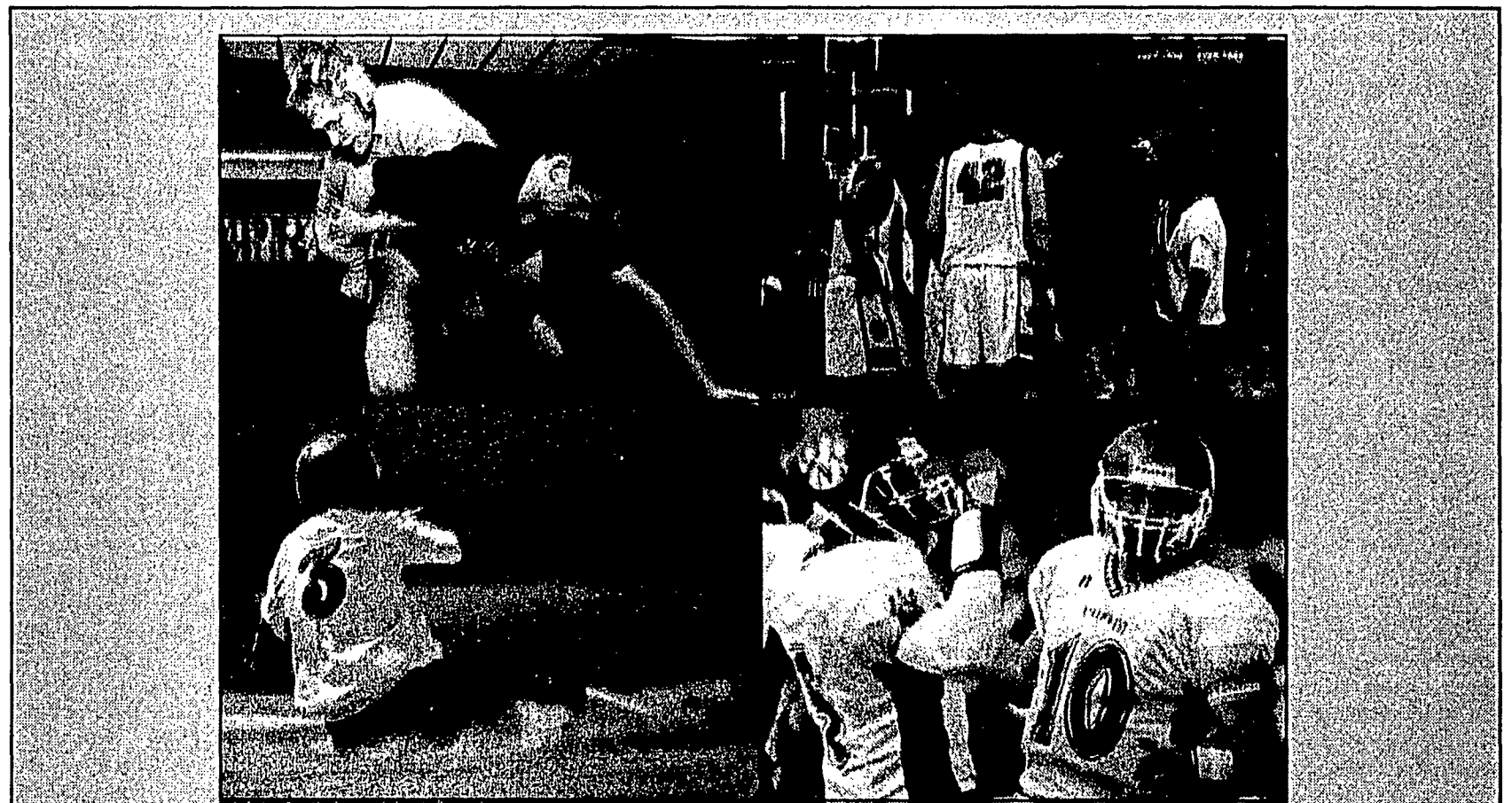


PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

CRYSTAL GUSTIN attempts to tag out an opposing player during this weekend's Northwest Classic at Bearcat Field. The 'Cats have won two straight.



End of the Year Awards

Top 10 Area Storylines— Football tops the list

Compiled by the *Missourian* Sports Staff

1. Northwest football team

Barely making the playoffs as a No. 6 seed, the Northwest football team made an improbable run, winning a record four straight road games. The team led powerhouse Grand Valley State in the national championship game, but could not hold on in the 21-17 season-ending loss. However, the run was still remarkable as they finished ranked second in the nation and with a 11-4 record.

2. Northwest mens' basketball team

Though picked seventh in the conference preseason polls, the Northwest mens' basketball team proved the critics wrong. They were the last MIAA Conference team standing, and defeated host Southwest Baptist University in the regional semifinals to advance to the Sweet 16.

The team was less than five minutes away from making it to its third Elite 8 in five years, but fell short to Tarleton State. The Bearcats finished the season at 22-11.

3. Northwest softball team

The Northwest softball team is currently on one of the best runs in Northwest school history. The Bearcats recently rattled off 21 wins in 22 games, going on 10 and 11 game winning streaks at the time. The team sits at 31-11 on the season and is on pace to break the school record of 34 wins.

4. E.J. Falkner earns fourth All-American honor

Falkner finished fifth and sixth in the 400- and 200-meter dashes, respectively, at the national indoor track meet. It was the fourth time in his young career that he earned All-American status.

5. Paul Miller steps down

Paul Miller stepped down as Maryville's head football coach after only two years. Miller ended his tenure at Maryville with an 11-10 record. This past season the Spoofohounds struggled with a 2-7 record, but just one season

before, the 'Hounds won the MEC Conference championship and district title. Maryville finished 9-3 and made it to the Class 3 state semifinals. Miller cited personal reasons for his departure.

6. Tatum moves on

Northwest offensive coordinator Bart Tatum ended his two-year tenure as play caller for Northwest. Tatum headed south to Missouri Southern to take over the reins. In Tatum's absence Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma decided not to hire another offensive coordinator but call the plays himself.

7. Alisha Samuel qualifies for third national indoor track meet

Alisha Samuel qualified for her third national indoor track meet. She finished her indoor career with two indoor conference track titles in the 60-meter dash and two All-American finishes.

8. Northwest womens' tennis team

The Northwest womens' team went on a 16-0 run to start the season before falling twice this past weekend. The women are currently the No. 1 team in the region and No. 1 singles player Gena Lindsay had a streak of winning 27 straight singles matches snapped this weekend.

9. Maryville high school wrestling team

Maryville wrestler Cody Gillenwater led four Spoofohounds to the state wrestling championships. Gillenwater finished third in the 130-pound weight class. He finished the season 35-3.

10. Northwest volleyball team makes coaching changes

The Northwest volleyball team had a major face-lift in the offseason. Lori Slight stepped down as the head coach after three seasons. She cited personal reasons for her departure. The Northwest Athletic Director Bob Boeriger named Anna Tool the new head coach in January. Earlier this month, Steph Sunken stepped down as Maryville's head volleyball coach and took over as the assistant for the Bearcats.

For the individual awards please see **B4** and **B5**. All awards were voted on by the *Missourian* Sports Staff.

Bearcats anticipate draft day

By Jerome Boettcher

S247132@nwmissouri.edu

While the three top NFL draft prospects Reggie Bush, Matt Leinart and Vince Young will be in New York on April 29 anticipating the NFL Draft, one Northwest football player will be taking a different approach.

Former Northwest football player and possible draft prospect Dave Tollefson will be nowhere near New York City on April 29.

He'll be in his home state of California—in a bass fishing tournament.

"I didn't really want to be around it," Tollefson said.

Tollefson, an All-American defensive end, is coming off a senior season that put him on the map. Tollefson recorded 58 tackles and 12.5 sacks during the season, he also had a blocked punt and a forced fumble. He later made six tackles in the Hula Bowl in Hawaii, which features Division I and

see DRAFT on 3B

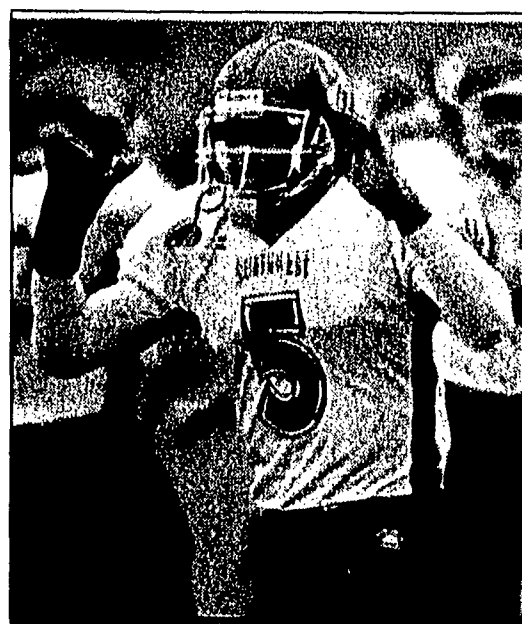


PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / NWMISSOURIAN

ANDRE RECTOR joins Dave Tollefson in the hunt to make it to the next level—the NFL.

Famous relays making strides

By Jerome Boettcher

S247132@nwmissouri.edu

The 79th University of Kansas Relays take place this weekend at Memorial Stadium in Lawrence, Kan., with over 6,000 participants and approximately 30,000 fans expected to watch.

But Northwest mens' track coach Richard Alsop remembers a time when the relays didn't get the most attention.

"Years ago when I first came into school here the KU Relays were really well run, good people and some of the world's best ... and then they fell on hard times. And boy, they had gotten to where they were really pathetic relays," Alsop said. "(They were) just a shadow of what they were before."

But the relays have regained their swagger and the event continues to strive for excellence. This weekend they will not only have high school and college athletes at the event but they will also have 100 major champions and 30 Olympians compete at the event.

Both the Northwest mens' and the wom-

ens' track teams will compete Thursday through Saturday.

"Our kids should be in a different sport if they're not excited about it," Alsop said. "Not only the competing (aspect) but also seeing it ... they'll be watching."

Both teams performed well at another Division I stage this past weekend as they competed at the Nebraska Invitational in Lincoln, Neb. Rainy weather delayed the meet and caused some Northwest athletes to go home early Saturday for the Easter weekend.

Travis MacKenzie provisionally qualified for nationals with a hammer throw of 184'6" which was good for third overall. The mark also broke the school record that Daniel McKim set in 2004 with a throw of 181'10."

Diezas Calbert also jumped a mark of 47'9 1/4" in the long jump. Bayo Adio took third in the high jump with a 6'8 3/4" mark. Brandon Dart also took second in the 5,000 meter run with a time of 15:24.27.

Kailea Cook took sixth in the 100-meter

see TRACK on 2B

Lucky 700

Northwest tennis coach Mark Rosewell recently picked up his 700th win on April 11 when his women's squad defeated Nebraska-Omaha.

Rosewell, who coaches both the men's and women's teams, recently sat down with Cole

Young to answer a few questions regarding his last 21 years at Northwest and his 700 wins.

What was your most memorable moment during the 700 wins?

There have been so many, it is tough to think of what would be the most memorable. I would say probably when the women beat the University of Missouri back in 1998 was the most memorable moment.

You have to create a starting six players for your mens' and womens' teams. Who is on them out of all your teams?

Mens':

Eduardo Jarlim, 1994-95, Luis Orrellano 1990-91, Jorge Castilla 1986-1989, Jon Sanchez, 2000-2003, Haiko Struder 1986-87, George Adeyemi 1985

Women's:

Gena Lindsay current, Julie Callahan Collins 1989-93, Kelly Lientz 1984-88, Yasmine Osborn 1997-99, Julie Kaputo 1991-94, Iva Kutlova 1996-97

What was your most successful team?

On the men 1995 and on the women 1997, the team in



Mark Rosewell
Northwest tennis coach

1997 got to the top eight in the country. We did that again in 2003, but I think that team in 1997 was better. The men's team in 1995 was ranked No. 11 in the country.

Do you think the women have a chance to make the top eight again this year?

If we get the right draw. It just comes down so much to the draw at the national tournament. But yeah, we are capable of making it to the national tournament. We got beat a couple times this weekend but Gina wasn't playing singles so that really hurt us.

When you graduated from CMSU could you have imagined winning 700 matches as a college coach?

I always wanted to be a coach and I wanted to coach tennis, but you know the support of the school has been really good for me. I actually came the same year as Dr. Hubbard in 1984 and I feel like I not only have the support of the athletic department but also of the institution and I think it does make a difference.

Some have called you the "toastmaster of the MIAA." How did you get that name?

I started going to those football and basketball luncheons years ago. I think maybe when I was coaching at CMSU. There was always all

this media around and I was always trying to get media for the tennis program. So, I would go and get to know people like yourself and other media around and I follow other sports as well. I just started going to them and they have become a tradition for me.

What has been your proudest moment as a coach?

Now that is an easy question for me. Five times we have won the men's and women's championships the same year in three different decades starting in 1987. We have a chance to do it again this year, don't know if we will or not, but have a chance. No other school in the MIAA has ever done that and we have done that five times.

Recap of the Weekend:

The Northwest tennis squads hope to build on history this weekend in the MIAA Conference Tennis Tournament in St. Joseph, Mo.

Both teams are coming off rough weekends at the Broncho Invitational in Edmond, Okla.

The squads combined to go 2-4 over the weekend, scores that look much worse on paper than in reality.

In the tournament, the men defeated East Central Oklahoma 6-3, while the women defeated Cameron 7-2.

If the Northwest women retain their No. 1 seed in the region, they will host the regional tournament May 5.



NORTHWEST CATCHER Whitney Krystof prepares to catch the ball during Northwest's second game on Friday in the Northwest Classic.

'CATS: Softball team falls out of national rankings

continued from 1B

of the season in the top of the third to put the 'Cats up for good.

Sophomore Lauren Lakebrink (8-3) also delivered a two-hit shutout, striking out two.

Anderson said the offense "did a better job of putting the ball in play."

"It's one of those things where we had runners in scoring position, but we couldn't come up with big hits," Anderson said. "Granted, we did come out with timely hits in both games."

This past weekend the squad ended with three losses at the Northwest classic with a 10-1 drubbing at the hands of No. 2 Emporia State in the final Saturday.

Seniors Katy John and senior Ashley Pride went a combined 0-for-6 in their final home game.

"It's frustrating because yesterday of course we had

a bad day, but all good teams had bad days," John said. "It's just frustrating."

The 'Cats did have a bad day Friday after being shut out in two games against Minnesota-State Mankato and MIAA foe Washburn.

MSU's Janet Barker, who Northwest saw in 1.1 innings of relief in the 'Cats 5-2 win on April 1, pitched a complete game two-hit shutout, striking out nine for a 4-0 win.

Washburn, who Northwest defeated 11-0 back on March 11, turned the tables with a complete game five hit shutout performance from Kelly Swygert, winning 3-0.

On the final day of action, the Northwest bats came alive putting up a school record 22 hits in a 21-5 dismantling of Upper Iowa (14-27). The 20 RBI's also set a new school record.

The 'Cats continue their lengthy road-trip 4 p.m. Friday against Pittsburg State.

TRACK: Teams prepare for conference meet

continued from 1B

dash with a time of 12.28 as teammate Alisha Samuel finished one-hundredth of a second behind Cook. Samuel also finished seventh in the 200-meter dash. Senior Abby Disselhoff finished 11th in the hammer throw.

Freshman Anna O'Brien continued performing well as she took 16th and 21st in the 1,500- and 800-meter runs, respectively, leading Northwest in each event.

"I think coach has trained right ... and he's really trying to get us to peak at the end of the season," O'Brien said. "I really feel like that's going to happen, come conference time, I feel like I'm going to be at my best."

The men's team will participate in the Central Missouri State Relays Friday. Both teams will have individuals competing in the Kansas Relays today through Saturday.

With the conference meet less than two weeks away, womens' coach Scott Lorek feels his team is starting to hit their stride.

"We talk about things and how they are going to turn around, and they are, we're starting to see that," Lorek said.

Kansas Relays
Today-Saturday
Memorial Stadium
Lawrence, Kan.
GOLDZONE II
2-5 p.m. Saturday



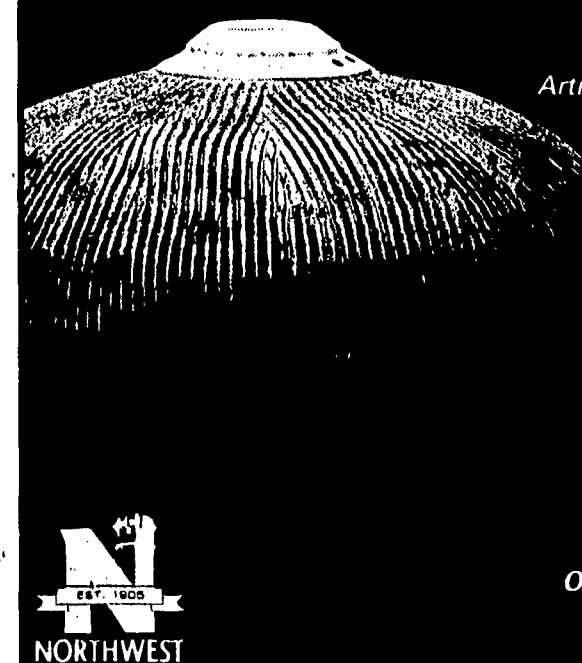
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'Cats benefit from errors

Baseball team wins third straight

Missourian Staff

The Northwest baseball team picked up its third straight victory Wednesday afternoon.

Northwest defeated NAIA William Jewell in Liberty, Mo., 12-9.

The Bearcats plated eight runs in the second inning—all unearned and mostly with two outs against them.

Northwest got up 10-0 before William Jewell made a come back.

Northwest held them off though to improve to a 15-21 record, while William Jewell fell to 30-16.

Mark Lewis (2-1) picked up the win in relief of starter Justin Hildebrand, who was pulled in the fourth inning.

Northwest finished with 14 hits and just one error, while William Jewell had five errors and 13 hits. Both Ben Malick and Tristan Stewart led Northwest with 3-for-5 batting on the day.

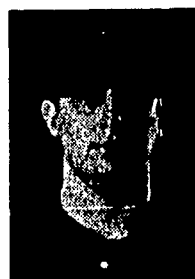
This past weekend Northwest split a series against visiting Pittsburg State.

Friday, the 'Cats loss 13-9 in the first game and 24-14 in the second. On Saturday Pittsburg State's bats were kept in check as Northwest won 3-1 in the first game and 4-1 in the second.

On Tuesday transfer Josh Norris was named the MIAA Pitcher of the Week. Norris, a transfer from Maplewoods, is the first member of the team to win the award in nearly two years.

Norris gave up nine hits in his one appearance against Pittsburg State Saturday. Norris struck out three and improved his record to 2-1 on the season.

Northwest now hosts Upper Iowa this weekend for four games starting at 1 p.m. Saturday.



Josh Norris
MIAA Pitcher of the Week

JUGGLING FOR FUNDS



KAYLA GRIFFIN juggles a soccer ball during their juggleathon along with other Northwest soccer teammates Thursday, April 13. The event is one of many fundraisers for a trip to Europe in August. The team would get help from coaches and teams in Europe. The team hopes to raise \$10,000 for the trip.

'Hounds keep slumping

By Sam Robinson
s244753@nwmissouri.edu

The Maryville Spoofohounds baseball team is reeling after consecutive losses in the Pony Express Tournament this week.

Maryville fell to Central 11-1 and Lafayette 9-2 respectively, dropping their record to 2-9 on the season.

Coach Brian Lohafer is seeing his young squad getting upset about the recent losing streak, but feels that with the difficult circumstances they are faced with, there is no room for the team hanging their heads.

"They're pretty down," Lohafer said. "I just keep emphasizing that we're a very young team and if we keep plugging away the wins will come but we've got to improve on the pitching and the errors though."

Monday night against Central, Maryville was in a hole from the start, giving up seven runs in the first three innings. With the large deficit staring them in the face, the 'Hounds managed only one run on two hits the rest of the way.

On Tuesday, after an hour and a half

delay due to the high scoring in the previous game, the 'Hounds took the field against Lafayette, a team the 'Hounds defeated two weeks ago. Maryville grabbed an early 2-1 lead off an RBI by Tyler Oglesby in the second inning. After that however, the floodgates opened and the Irish brought home eight runs in the third inning. Capitalizing on outfield errors and a spree of wild pitches, the Irish quickly took an 8-2 lead.

Lohafer felt the Lafayette onslaught was brought on by several overthrows and the aforementioned pitching woes.

"We had a big pitching problem with eight wild pitches being thrown," Lohafer said. "We also had our leftfielder misjudge a ball and had several arid throws from the outfield to the infield."

'Hounds pitcher Ryan Stiens was tagged with the loss as the Irish proved too much for the young 'Hounds. In addition to the defensive miscues, the 'Hounds' bats, in posting seven hits in the two games, have been slumping during this tournament according to Lohafer.

Maryville plays Leblond at 6:30 tonight for seventh place in the Pony Express Tournament.

DRAFT: Northwest players hope they can jump to NFL

continued from 1B

Division II athletes.

So, needless to say, Tollefson's stock has risen and it puts him in a good situation as draft day rolls around. Tollefson has an agent, who is out of Chicago, and even if he doesn't get drafted he plans to sign somewhere.

Tollefson has worked out for several teams, but he says he is not leaning towards one particular team.

"Worse case scenario is that I will have to sign as a free agent," Tollefson said. "It would be a pleasant surprise if I was drafted."

Tollefson has worked out for several teams, including the Philadelphia Eagles. On Friday he will have a workout for the San Francisco 49ers.

Tollefson is not the only Bearcat trying to make it at the next level. Teammate Andre Rector is trying to join his brother, Jamaica, on the big stage. Andre has an agent and is also anticipating draft day. However, Andre is being realistic about it.

"I like going free agent, it gives me opportunities," Andre said. "I can actually pick which team I want to go to whereas if you're drafted you don't have a choice you just have to go to that team."

Andre finished the 2005 season with record numbers.

He caught 97 passes for 1,297 yards and 11 touchdowns. Andre broke Jamaica's single season record of both receiving yards and receptions. Jamaica now plays for the Dallas Cowboys in the NFL.

Andre finished sixth on the MIAA career list with 3,049 yards. He also played in the Cactus Bowl this past season. Andre is listed at 5'11", giving him two inches on older brother Jamaica. But Andre knows he has a lot to improve on to succeed at the next level.

"They're kind of leaning towards speed, but at the same time I just want to be faster," Andre said. "... At the NFL, it's just different, it's faster too."

Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma said Andre might be more of a longshot than Tollefson to get drafted. However, Tjeerdsma did say when it all came down to it, as long as they made it, it doesn't matter how they got there.

"I guess it's an ego thing to be drafted, but when it's all said and done, all you need to be able to do is to sign on the line with any team," Tjeerdsma said. "Now you've got the same chance just like everybody else and it's up to you."

The draft will take place Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30 and will be televised nationally on ESPN.

For extended stories of spring sports this summer, visit missourianonline.com. Though the school year is over, we will continue our coverage.

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Lion's Share CHALLENGE

'Of The Year' Awards

College Coach: Steve Tappmeyer High School Athlete: Cody Gillenwater

By Jerome Boettcher
S247132@nwmissouri.edu

Northwest mens' player Mose Howard learned quickly what type of coach Steve Tappmeyer is.

"He's a real good guy, he's real hard to play for but at the same time he's going to be committed to everything the team does," Howard said. "He's going to push you and I think that some people can take that the wrong way because he's a hard coach to play for but he's going to push you and make sure that you get better. He's not going to let you settle in your comfort zone."

Howard, a transfer from University of Missouri at Kansas City, was one of Tappmeyer's acquisitions in the offseason.

Tappmeyer led a team that was picked seventh in the conference pre-season polls to a 22-11 record and a Sweet 16 appearance. They were also the last MIAA team playing.

For his coaching guidance and passion Steve Tappmeyer is named the 2005-2006 Northwest Missourian College Coach of the Year.

"I have a lot of respect for Coach Tapp, I feel like he's one of the best coaches I ever played for," Howard said. "I look forward to continuing the good relationship we have."

After six seniors graduated the year before, this past season Tappmeyer took a team with four transfers and three seniors to the South Central Regional Championship game.

The mens' team started off strong heading 9-2 into the conference season. After losing the conference opener, the team won six straight and was in position to take sole possession of the conference. However, they blew a late lead on the road to Truman State and lost four straight.

During that stretch, Tappmeyer continued to try to get everything out of his athletes.

"That's a real strength of his, not too get too high or too low," associate head coach Darren Vorderbruegge said. "He really brings the same approach everyday. When that happens if you win three or four or you lose three or four, this is how we act, this is how we practice."

The team bounced back and made it as a fourth seed into the conference tournament. After a second-round exit, Tappmeyer got his team ready for the regional tournament.

"I thought emotionally and physi-



STEVE TAPPMAYER led the 'Cats to their third Sweet 16 in five years.

cally we got ourselves ready," Tappmeyer said. "... I think they always got themselves ready to play. I think most of that goes back to leadership."

The team made it in as a fifth seed and defeated West Texas A&M and host Southwest Baptist to advance to the Sweet Sixteen. The team then fell in the final seconds to the No. 2 seed Tarleton State but Tappmeyer could see how special this season was to his players after the game.

"It was a very special locker room because everyone was hurting so bad," Tappmeyer said. "Their were tears being shed, there were guys saying things, just how much the team meant to them and how much the season meant."

"Very sincere stuff. It hurts a lot to lose a game like that but for it to hurt that much it means that it had to mean a lot to them. They had to put a lot into it. Even that loss, I look back and think that's a pretty special time to see a bunch of guys that have committed to that point."

Tappmeyer is the all-time winningest basketball coach in Northwest history and has a 348-178 record during his 18-year career.

He acknowledged the coach of the year honor but said he thought it was more of a team effort and praised his coaching staff from the student manager to Vorderbruegge.

Even after all his years of coaching, Vorderbruegge said the passion is still evident.

"The fire still burns, he cares about players," Vorderbruegge said. "... From my own personal experience he's great to our staff. He's much more than a coach, he's a tremendous friend."

By Brett Barger
S203501@nwmissouri.edu

Cody Gillenwater will leave Maryville High School without a wrestling championship. What he will leave with is his own legacy etched in Maryville High School wrestling history.

This past season, Gillenwater finished third in the 130-pound division at the Missouri State Wrestling Championships ending with a 35-3 record.

"It's good, I feel good finishing third," Gillenwater said. "I think I could have done better... it's just sometimes things go your way and sometimes they don't."

For his efforts, Gillenwater is the Northwest Missourian High School Athlete of the Year.

Maryville wrestling coach Joe Drake said the equal balance of leadership and performance on the mat has been one of Gillenwater's most endearing qualities.

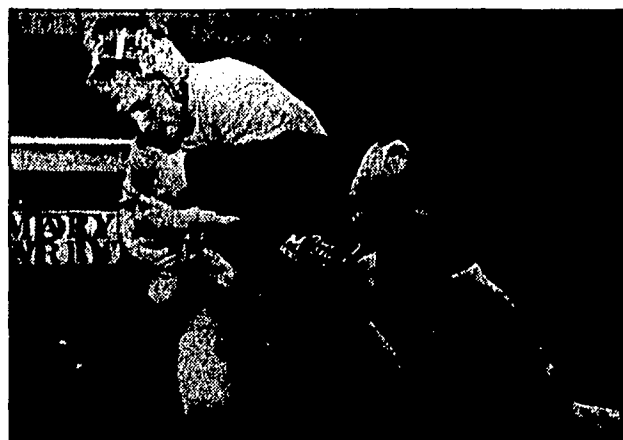
"During the four years that he's been here, he's done a lot in the way of leadership through his hard work," Drake said. "Cody is not always the most vocal one in the room, but definitely he's led through example. He's been very consistent in his performance for four years for us."

Gillenwater is also the 2006 recipient of the Joe Pope Memorial Award, named for Drake's first state wrestling champion.

Drake said he created this award for a wrestler who performs well on the mat and in the classroom.

"He works very hard in the classroom, maintains a grade level that is suitable in the classroom," Drake said.

Sophomore Luke Lancaster, one of Gillenwater's teammates said he has been helped so much



CODY GILLENWATER, top, finished third overall at the state wrestling championships as he ended his high school career.

by Gillenwater's knowledge and leadership.

"Cody always really been a good teammate to me," Lancaster said. "Ever since we were little, wrestling in little kids wrestling, he's always helped me out with moves, showing me new moves that we didn't learn in practice."

Sophomore Dakota Merrill has been Gillenwater's practice partner for most of the season.

"He mainly helped me when I went up against guys who (were) stronger or smaller," Merrill said.

Gillenwater's high school career has come to a close, but he intends to continue his wrestling career at either Truman State or Central Missouri State.

"I can't live down in the past," Gillenwater said. "I've got to get ready for tryouts, because I obviously want to wrestle in college."

High School Coach: Joe Drake

By Andrew Glover
S270230@nwmissouri.edu

Maryville High School wrestling coach, Joe Drake, has given his wrestlers so much more than most coaches.

Drake has coached wrestling at Maryville High School for 32 years, producing 12 state champions.

This year there wasn't a state champion, but the Spoofhound's success was measured very differently.

Drake said because his team was very young, it was difficult at the beginning of the season but by the end, the team was firing on all cylinders.

"We had some talent there that we just weren't seeing yet," Drake said. "In those last three weeks of the season, it was like we had a different team, all of a sudden kids were win-

ning matches, we were beating kids we had lost to earlier in the year. The end of the year really came together and we finished strong."

This season, Drake coached four wrestlers in the state tournament. His top finisher was senior standout at 130-pounds Cody Gillenwater, who placed third for the second consecutive year.

Because of his guidance and determination Gillenwater was named the Northwest Missourian's High School Coach of the Year.

Gillenwater said Drake is a father figure to him and that he was overcome by emotion after his last match.

"Before the match I think I remember him telling me, 'lets finish on a good note,'" Gillenwater said. "Afterwards he said, 'thank you,' which he's not the person to say, 'thank you,' he hits on the nose, he's a hard-nose person and

he said thank you, that made me real emotional, and that means more than anything he could have said."

Other wrestlers on the team say that Drake didn't just teach them wrestling but also how to be a good person, will good character.

Sophomore Dakota Merrill said Drake really instilled good morals in him and taught him how to be a better person.

Luke Lancaster who is also a sophomore, said more than anything, Drake demanded that his wrestlers worked hard and put in as much effort as they could.

Next season, Drake will look once again to the youth of his team for leadership and performance. Drake will be adding to his career win total of 312, which puts him second all-time in the state.

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64 / 40

Friday

Adios, school



70 / 41

Saturday

Have a barbecue



76 / 50

Sunday

Hit the library



76 / 52

Monday

Finals begin



70 / 47

Tuesday

Breathe



66 / 41

Wednesday

Start packing



69 / 42

Provided by the National
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Your Man annoyed by extra assignments



The longest part of the drive from Kansas City to Maryville is the final 12 miles. Your Man says the same thing about the week before finals.

It's an interesting thing, the end of the trimester. Faculty members across campus have come into the realization that their lackluster pace from the beginning of the term has led them to achieve only a fraction of the class objectives.

Now they've shifted into overdrive, piling projects, tests and papers on top of the struggling students in an effort to

look like effective teachers. It's as if the gods of Academia have emptied their lavatory over the students of Northwest.

Your Man has a stern message for those faculty members guilty of this crime—stop it already! Your Man got an additional assignment Tuesday because no one answered a question posed to the class. The assignment is, frankly speaking, a complete waste of time.

Apparently the best approach to motivating a classroom of stressed students is to assign them additional work. More than one pair of eyes bulged and teeth gritted at this insult to morale.

Don't get Your Man wrong. He understands that this time of year is also stressful for faculty. After all, they have to turn in grades the Monday

after finals, which wouldn't be so bad if they hadn't put off returning any assignments until the end of the trimester.

And just imagine all the graduating seniors. It's not like they have much motivation at all. They're starting to resemble three-toed sloths. Commencement is looming, and they've checked out for the remainder of their time here. It's just a matter of going through the motions.

Never fear, Your Man has a plan for combating the onslaught of busy work as the trimester ends. It's rather ineffective since the paper doesn't come out until just one class day remains, but perhaps it can be implemented in the fall.

Simply put, create a zoo. Instead of animals, put faculty members in cages. Put them

on a regular feeding schedule and have small children walk around and comment on them all day. Eventually they might figure out exactly what it means to heckle students with meaningless tripe day after day.

Your Man's not insulting education, he's insulting the ever-so-popular busy work, the professor's default when he/she doesn't feel like teaching meaningful material.

To those professors who spend their trimesters actively educating students and avoiding hollow assignments, Your Man thanks you.

But if you're guilty of simply providing busy work, prepared to be poked and mocked by elementary school children.

In closing, Your Man would

just like to review the many facts that you have probably learned from the knowledgeable Stroller.

You can't create a diamond without pressure, so that must mean that diamonds were lazy and waited until the last minute.

The editors of the *Northwest Missourian* get mad if you try to use Terri Schiavo as a verb.

Terrorists like pornography.

It's hard to learn with a BAC that's higher than your GPA.

It's been fun. Your Man wishes you good luck on finals and hopes his next reincarnation is better than him.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of *The Northwest Missourian*.

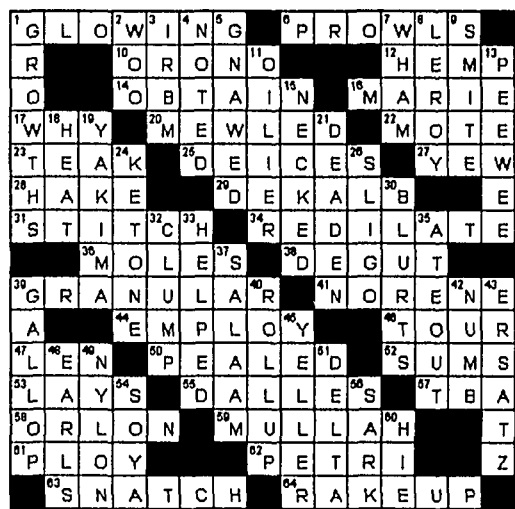
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

Across

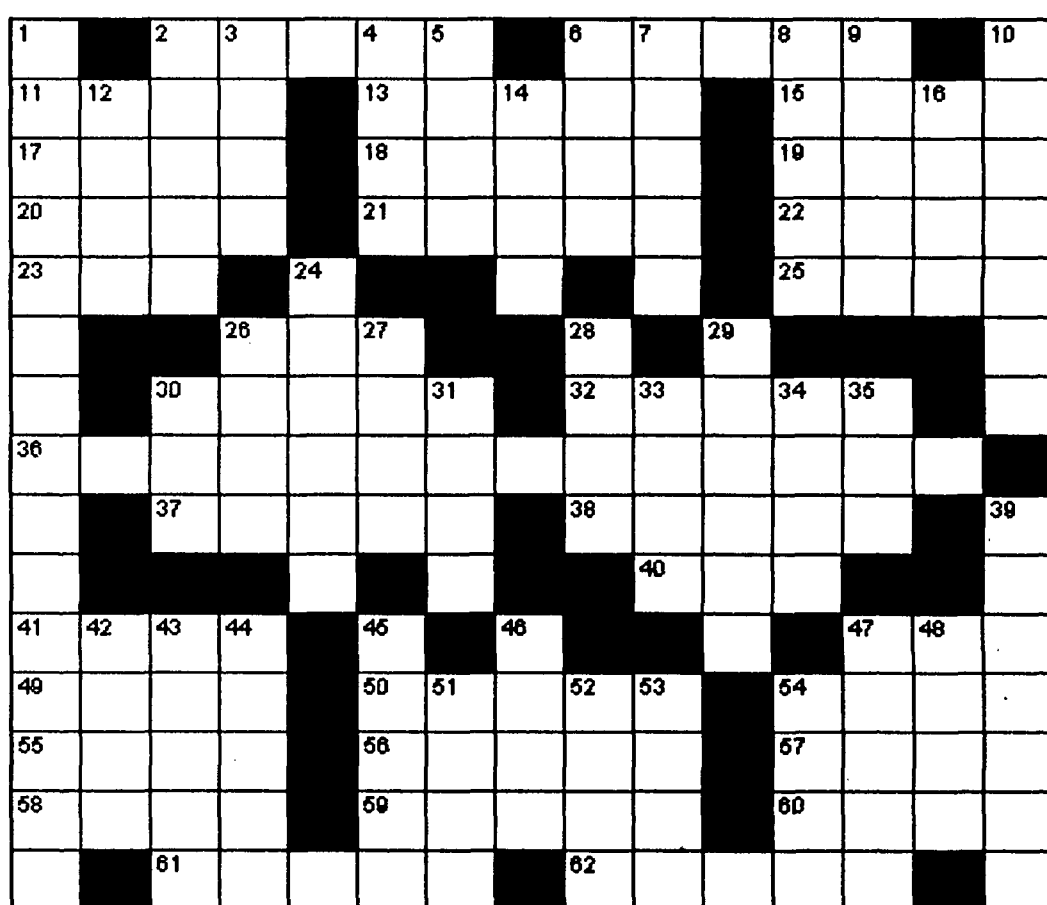
2. Seizes with teeth
6. Shatter
11. Scent
13. Pretty girl
15. Spooky
17. Republic in W Africa
18. Sheep cry
19. Scheme
20. At what time
21. Roofing stone
22. Singer Cogan
23. Very cold
25. Something that is lost
26. Writing instrument
30. Melodies
32. Analyze a metallic compound
36. Detective
37. Area used for sports
38. Mixture of rain and snow
40. Lair
41. National Collegiate Athletic Association
47. Little value
49. To tip the hat
50. Rubbish
54. Child's toy
55. To the inside of
56. Cavalry weapon
57. Doing nothing
58. Never
59. Regions
60. Scottish isle
61. Use again
62. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Down

1. In spite of
2. A golf score
3. Metallic element
4. Recedes
5. Exchange for money
6. Narrow strip of wood
7. Unit of length
8. Flower-part
9. Greeting
10. Family of rulers
12. Double overhead camshaft
14. Escaping fluid
16. Hits
24. English regatta town
26. Cat sound
27. Inert gaseous element
28. Exclamations of surprise
29. In a dormant state
30. Light meal
31. Swindle
33. Traded
34. So be it
35. Nevertheless
39. An Irish girl
42. Fruit of the pine
43. Later
44. Before
45. Collection of maps
46. One of the divisions of a window
47. Russian liquor
48. Supporter
51. Uncommon
52. Scrutinize
53. Hitler henchman
54. Flat circular plate



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Summer movie picks preview

Pirates of the Caribbean II: Dead Man's Chest

As far as sequels go, this one may actually be worth seeing. *Pirates of the Caribbean II: Dead Man's Chest*, set to be released July 17, leads the summer sequel race.

The swash-buckling action adventure hits the second time around when Captain Jack Sparrow discovers he owes a blood debt to the infamous Davy Jones, leader of the ghostly Flying Dutchman. Now Jack must interrupt the wedding plans of his compatriots, Will Turner and Elizabeth Swann, to avoid a life of eternal damnation.

The line-up is perfect. All of the original actors have signed on to be a part of the production. Johnny Depp (*The Libertine, Secret Window*) cast as Captain Jack Sparrow, Will Turner will again be played by Orlando Bloom (*Elizabeth-town, Troy*) and his fiancé Elizabeth Swann played by Keira Knightley (*Domino, The Jacket*). Geoffrey Rush (*Shine, Munich*) even returns as Captain Barbossa.

Pirates will be lead by rising director Gore Verbinski (*The Weatherman, The Ring*). Judging from his previous films it will certainly be long, with rich scenery and plenty of content.

If this one goes well I guess ticket buyers will be lining up to see *Pirates of the Caribbean III*, set to be released in 2007. It should be interesting to see where this franchise will take us.

The Da Vinci Code

Followers of *The Da Vinci Code* have eagerly awaited the on-screen adaptation. Ron Howard will release his most recent cinematic creation May 19.

The mysterious film picks up when an American symbologist vacationing in Paris is called to investigate some bizarre circumstances surrounding the murder of The Louvre's elderly curator inside the museum. Robert Langdon, played by veteran actor Tom Hanks (*Cast Away, The Green Mile*) finds himself drawn into a series of riddles surrounding clues hidden in Da Vinci's works. Langdon and a cryptologist join forces to discover the ancient meaning behind the clues before it's too late.

The plot sounds much more established than the recent action-adventure, *National Treasure*. It seems the writers may have actually taken time to discuss ideas than run with the concept of a map on the Declaration of Independence, I hope.

Ron Howard is commonly known for piecing together very rich and emotional films. His

film style is popular for capturing an elegant side of human nature without the benefit of American pop culture. Howard has directed such pieces as *A Beautiful Mind, Cinderella Man* and *Apollo 13*.

Hopefully, Tom Hanks will continue to astound us in this piece. It's not common to see him in an action-packed theological type movie. Audiences are used to seeing the softer, family oriented Hanks, so *The Da Vinci Code* should be a treat for all filmgoers.

Lady in the Water

Who knows where this film will take us? *Lady in the Water*, July 21, is the next installment in a handful of M. Night Shyamalan films which wander dangerously close to the edges of accepted reality.

Shyamalan has taunted our senses with the supernatural on more than one occasion. The human race defeated extinction by aliens in the science-fiction, heart wrenching film, *Signs*, and the world will never forget the little boy who saw "dead people," in *The Sixth Sense*.

Lady in the Water pulls audiences in with an odd tale of un-reality. Cleveland Heep, played by Paul Giamatti (*Sideways, Cinderella Man*), is a quiet building manager who rescues a young woman from the building pool. As Heep learns more and more about this mysterious woman, played by Bryce Dallas Howard (*The Village, Spiderman 3*), he learns she is a character from a bedtime story trying to make the dangerous journey from our world back into her own. Heep and his friends must do what they can to protect her from the vicious creatures that wish to prevent her from going home.

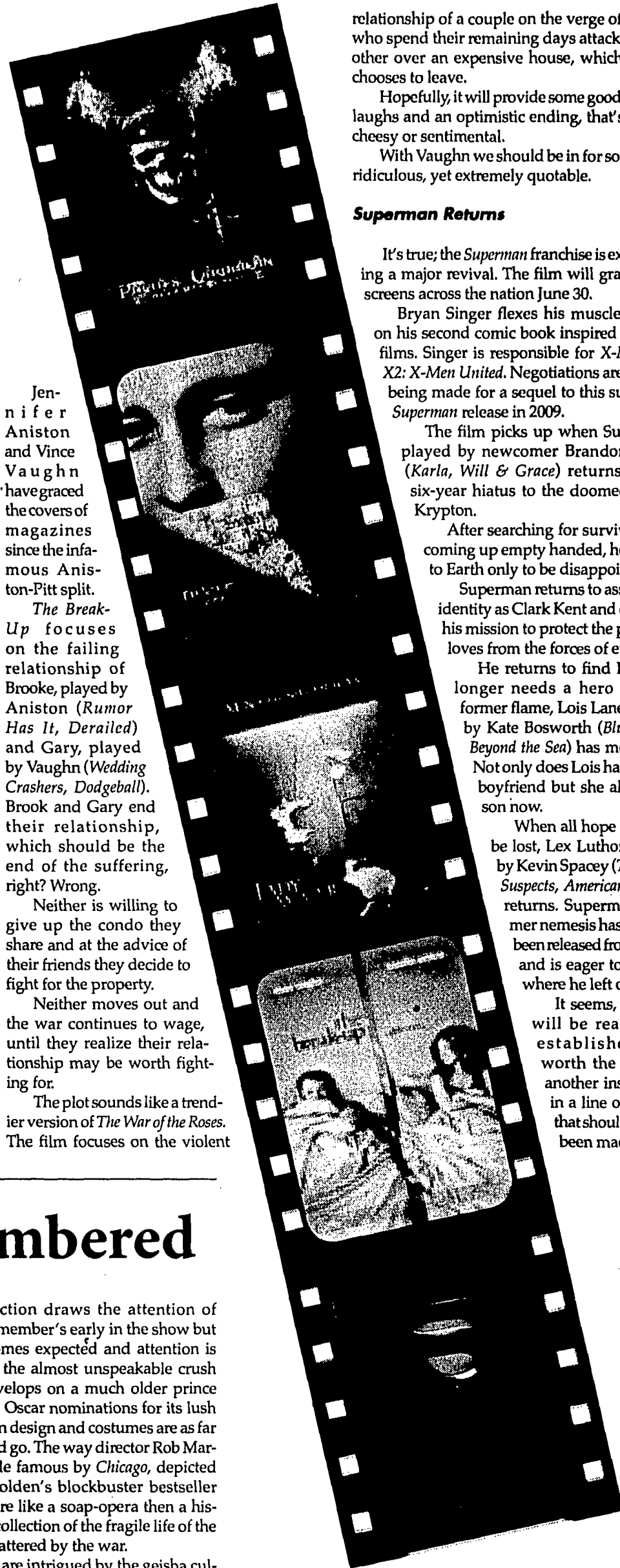
Most recently Shyamalan has dazzled his audience with a tale of an almost utopian society established through fear. *The Village* was one of Shyamalan's most under-rated works to date. The plot was intriguing and original, however many audiences were let down when the monsters were at last revealed.

Lady in the Water will certainly present us with a new form of cinematic originality viewers are constantly longing for. In a summer of re-makes and knock-offs it'll be good to have something to look forward too.

The Break-Up

Currently leading the race for most talked about romantic comedy of the summer is Peyton Reed's, *The Break-Up*, set to be released June 2.

The film is certainly to make a splash because of the two celebrities in the lead roles.



relationship of a couple on the verge of divorce who spend their remaining days attacking each other over an expensive house, which neither chooses to leave.

Hopefully, it will provide some good-hearted laughs and an optimistic ending, that's not too cheesy or sentimental.

With Vaughn we should be in for something ridiculous, yet extremely quotable.

Superman Returns

It's true; the *Superman* franchise is experiencing a major revival. The film will grace silver screens across the nation June 30.

Bryan Singer flexes his muscles taking on his second comic book inspired series of films. Singer is responsible for *X-Men* and *X2: X-Men United*. Negotiations are already being made for a sequel to this summer's *Superman* release in 2009.

The film picks up when Superman, played by newcomer Brandon Routh (*Karla, Will & Grace*) returns from a six-year hiatus to the doomed planet Krypton.

After searching for survivors and coming up empty handed, he returns to Earth only to be disappointed.

Superman returns to assume his identity as Clark Kent and continue his mission to protect the planet he loves from the forces of evil.

He returns to find Earth no longer needs a hero and his former flame, Lois Lane, played by Kate Bosworth (*Blue Crush, Beyond the Sea*) has moved on. Not only does Lois have a new boyfriend but she also has a son now.

When all hope seems to be lost, Lex Luthor, played by Kevin Spacey (*The Usual Suspects, American Beauty*) returns. Superman's former nemesis has recently been released from prison and is eager to pick up where he left off.

It seems, this film will be really well established and worth the wait, or another installment in a line of sequels that shouldn't have been made.

'Memoirs' fails to be remembered

By Jessica Hartley
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Memoirs of a Geisha chronicles the life of a young Japanese girl named Chiyo, played by Ziyi Zhang (*House of Flying Daggers*, 2004). Her journey begins when her impoverished family sells her into slavery to a classy geisha house when she is 9-years-old.

Chiyo becomes a maid to Hatsumono, played by Li Gong (2004, *Eros*). She is a deceitful, ill-tempered, controlling geisha who is instantly jealous of Chiyo's striking beauty and unusual blue eyes. Chiyo is shown kindness by the Chairman, played by Ken Watanabe (*The Last Samurai, Batman Begins*), and grand-diva geisha, Mameha, played by Michelle Yeoh

renamed Sayuri, becomes her greatest rival. But when bullets start to fly as World War II looms on the horizon, Chiyo is torn from the life she's grown accustomed to.

The greatly-anticipated *Memoirs of a Geisha* is a beautiful bore. Exquisite kimono's and painted faces add color to the dull repetitiveness of the women's catfights. And the men of the show are held in high accord, catered to in any way

(*Sunshine, The Touch*), who takes her into her home.

Through Chiyo's eyes, we are given a backstage view of her struggle to create and develop herself as a desirable geisha. Initially reluctant, Chiyo starts to practice the art, learning how to walk, talk, dance and serve in order to please her notable male clients. Hatsumono becomes even more jealous when Chiyo,

they like.

The action draws the attention of audience member's early in the show but soon becomes expected and attention is shifted to the almost unspeakable crush Chiyo develops on a much older prince charming. Oscar nominations for its lush production design and costumes are as far as it should go. The way director Rob Marshall, made famous by *Chicago*, depicted Arthur Golden's blockbuster bestseller seems more like a soap-opera than a historical, recollection of the fragile life of the geisha, shattered by the war.

If you are intrigued by the geisha culture or enjoyed Golden's novel, *Memoirs of a Geisha* is worth the time on the couch. The artistic presentation alone is a good enough reason to spend the 144 minutes parked in front of the screen. But if you're looking for something more, you may be disappointed.



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Who's Facebooking you?



Staffers attempt to withdraw from Facebook for 40 days

By Kristine Hotop
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It's worked its way into a noun, verb and adjective. It's become an excuse not to sleep, eat and attend classes. It's buried itself deep inside the brain, whispering, persuading, almost forcing its actions upon its followers; you're a victim.

It's not a drug, but just as addictive. It's Facebook, and it's taken over college campuses around the nation. The nicotine-like dependence stuck so well, Facebook moved on to high school.

I am the first to admit, I was addicted, even obsessed. I took every opportunity I had with Facebook, with every spare moment in front of the computer I fulfilled every stalkers dream.

I went through at least five profile pictures a week, uploaded hundreds of photos into the convenient little albums and made sure each person I graduated with was securely added to my friend list.

I realized my problem when I knew what other peoples weekend plans were before they realized by reading messages on their wall. It was then I decided to do the unimaginable: give Facebooking up for Lent.

As Ash Wednesday approached, I abandoned my position as Facebook queen. As the clock rolled over, I actually enjoyed visiting other Web sites. Who knew you could read the newspaper via online or complete research for homework.

It wasn't until I began receiving dozens of e-mails from the 'wallmaster' saying that so-in-so had written on my wall. Even that what's-his-face wants me as a friend or, the ever annoying, blah blah would like you to join a group. As much as I like to be Facebook poked, I hate the lingering e-mails hinting at what I'm missing.

I was then introduced to Facebook-esque Web sites, such as Myspace and MSNspaces. I felt like a cocaine addict in a sugar factory; there were things that looked like Facebook, but lacking all the necessary elements that sent me into a rotating spiral of ecstasy.

I needed to fill that void Facebook left in my heart. So, I worked the system. I had friends log-on to my account to check my wall or see what new and...unique pictures were on display for everyone, which was a good thing. I had to have a friend regulate a few photos and de-tag myself. Jerks.

As a positive note, news on the negative effects of Facebook began pouring in. Employers had access to Facebook, screening profiles able to turn away potential applicants. As a college student hoping to be employed in the near future, I'm going to try and avoid posting obscene, yet entertaining photos of myself, unless I want to live with my parents after I receive my diploma.

As my absence from Facebook faded into a memory, I realized that I really don't like Facebook that much. All it allowed, was people I solely consider "Facebook friends" to stalk me and the ability to get fired from any job and denied any top-level position if I felt the need to post offensive and degrading photos of myself.

Easter Sunday arrived and as most Lenten-goers were inserting chocolate IV's into their systems, I was breathing in an air machine of Facebook, letting the invisible forces seep deep into my lungs and back into my veins.

I logged on, ecstatic for my first day back on Facebook, but it wasn't quite the same between us. Facebook had moved on without me, showing updated profiles down to the second, huge photo albums and ways of showing "connections" half of the college population fabricates anyway (where family members and best friends "hooked up" before they were even born; check that out next time if you haven't noticed it yet).

Now that Facebook is "legal" again, I found it more aggravating than ever. All I want to do at the moment is load a friggin' profile picture and it won't allow me.

Well, you know what Facebook? I can do just fine without you.

I'm quitting you...for now.

Web logging craze has students 'Facebooking' their way to dependency

By Ashley Bally
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Electric blue light bounces off the walls giving the room a soft pale glow.

Her face is illuminated by the faint light as she stares into the screen. Unflinching, the clicking continues, she yawns and glances over at the clock. It's 2 a.m. now, she thinks back and wonders how she could've lost an hour.

She has class in the morning, but she can't seem to work up the motivation to close the monitor on her laptop. Sliding her finger across the pad, the little arrow hovers over a link to check her messages; she taps it and finds a new one.

A smile crosses her face and quickly clicks a reply. At last she logs out and closes the screen. She quietly whispers to herself as she climbs into bed, "I'll check it again in the morning."

Northwest student Tiffany Logue is one of many students on-campus finding it more and more difficult to pry themselves away from Facebook.

Facebook is an online web logging community where students post information about their lives. Their profiles include address, contact information, interests, who they are dating, classes they are taking and pictures.

The program allows students to view each other profiles, leave comments and send messages to each other.

A web log nation

This generation relies on technology for instant communication. With the arrival of similar programs like Xanga and MySpace more students are logging on and dedicating time to set up and update their profiles.

Assistant Professor of Psychology and Counseling Jackie Kibler believes the college generation is centered on technology and is the basis of communication for youth.

"Our society always has to be in constant contact," Kibler said. "If they can't be contacted right away, we immediately become frustrated."

Facebook, the newest form of web log to hit Northwest, arrived last spring and has taken the campus by storm. Many students are so involved in their online lives that checking their profiles for new comments and messages is becoming addictive.

"It's a whole new social dynamic," Kibler said. "It crosses the boundary between Internet life and social life."

The new addiction

Logue became so involved in checking her Facebook account that in order for her to take back control of her life, she deactivated her account and lived Facebook-free for two weeks.

"I deactivated because it was seriously taking over my life," Logue. "It just got ridiculous. It was funny because when you deactivate you have to put your reasons for it and I put, 'It's taking over my life.'"

There are so many reasons students check Facebook. Logue had reached a point where she had begun to notice it chipping away at her social and personal life. She noticed little things like being late for class, delaying homework or pausing before going out to take a new 'profile picture.'

"Facebook is addictive because everyone is nosy," she said. "Everybody wants to know everything about everyone else's life. Even those people who swore they would never get on Facebook, I bet 95 percent of them are on now."

Kibler created a faculty account to see what Facebook was all about. Since then she has formed some theories of her own as to why students depend on Internet communication rather than face-to-face contact.

She believes students have more at stake when talking to someone in person and the messaging on Facebook provides a safer more secure environment for students to be honest.

"People like to think they are valued," Kibler said. "So, when someone sends a message, it's affirmation that someone is thinking about you. The number of 'Facebook friends' also seems to be superficial when the numbers are so high. It's another type of affirmation."

More harm than good

Logue had fallen into all of the habits which come directly from constant Facebook use. Everything from looking for that cute guy she met at the bar to monitoring feuds between friends, high school and college.

Another big habit which is accepted and laughed about is "Facebook Stalking."

"My roommates and I would 'Facebook stalk,'" Logue said. "We joked around about it and it was funny to us. By the end of the day we would be looking at people's pictures from other schools. You'd have no idea who they were, but you would look at their pictures just to look at them."

Offices around the Northwest campus are even logging in and scoping out potential employees before making any final decisions.

Coordinator of Student Orientation and Transfer Affairs Leslie Chandler is responsible for higher this year's S.O.A.R. or Student Orientation and Registration leaders.

"We generally check everywhere we hire," she said. "It is a good way to see how they portray themselves in different situations. We look for a lot of over-drinking or sexual references."

Director of Public Safety Keith Wood said there is always a direct threat when students freely include so much personal information about themselves in a public online site.

"All types of bad things can come from it," Wood said. "You never know when it can be used as a tool for stalking or any predator activity."

Logue has also felt her privacy had been violated because of the information she included in her profile. Logue included her cell phone number and her AIM name (AOL Instant Messenger name).

"It's really freaky," she said. "There have been times where a guy would randomly instant message me or start text messaging me. I had no idea who they were, I just think that's creepy."

A step in the right direction

Since Logue's initial deactivation, she has noticed a significant change in her study habits and a renewed dedication to class work.

The two-week break helped stop a dependency cycle Logue had on the program. She recommends anyone who is struggling, to deactivate, even if just for a while.

"Not having it helped me out so much," Logue said. "I get so much more done. Now I only check Facebook like once a day. I don't even realize I have it anymore."

Logue believes Facebook is here to stay. In a year's a time its popularity has not slowed down a bit and with each coming class of freshman it's just going to keep growing.

Facebook is becoming a new instinctual. It's just like anything else people do in life, according to Logue.

"It's just like when you have to pee you go to the bathroom and when you are by a computer you check Facebook," Logue said. "When you have to blow your nose, you blow your nose, when you have to cough you cough, when you are by a computer you check Facebook and if you don't have the Internet, you freak out."

SAFETY TIPS

A number of different precautions can be taken to ensure safety. Simple steps will prevent identity theft and establish a defense against predators.

- Never post social security number; including a social security number can lead to identity theft.
- Do not include a birth date; including a birth date can also encourage identity theft.
- Take caution in posting an address or class schedule; advertising whereabouts makes it possible for anyone to be located, even by a predator.
- Tips from Campus Safety Sergeant Ray Otman

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

Residential assistants cannot punish students depicted drinking in dorm rooms in Facebook photos. The residential assistants need to see, hear and smell the student drinking to consider them for punishment, according to Residential Assistant Heidi Shires.

If students are depicted in acts of vandalism or other crimes in Facebook photos nothing can be done in the way of criminal punishment, yet. Other schools are beginning to take steps to establish judicial code violations where students could be punished with online evidence, according to Otman.